



SHADOW FALL
PART 1 OF 4

ISSUE 59

SEGA®

20 years of
SONIC COMICS

SONIC UNIVERSE™



Travis
Yavelkey!
+Steve

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – a world beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Shadow and Team Dark set out to save the world from a threat that shouldn't even exist!

SONIC UNIVERSE™

PREVIOUSLY...

THE ULTIMATE INVASION!

The Black Arms were a race of alien marauders that had attacked Sonic's world long ago. Despite superior bio-technology and numbers, they were stopped when Shadow the Hedgehog defeated their leader and central hive-mind, Black Doom, and blew up their traveling homeworld, the Black Comet.

A New Black Comet has arrived, bearing more Black Arms. Where did they come from? How did they survive Black Doom's defeat? Nobody knows, and Shadow isn't stopping to ask. He leads Team Dark and G.U.N.'s Spider Troupe on a mission to blow up the New Black Comet and stop the mysterious aliens.

Shadow and his team **MUST** repel these evil invaders, or the world and all its people are doomed...



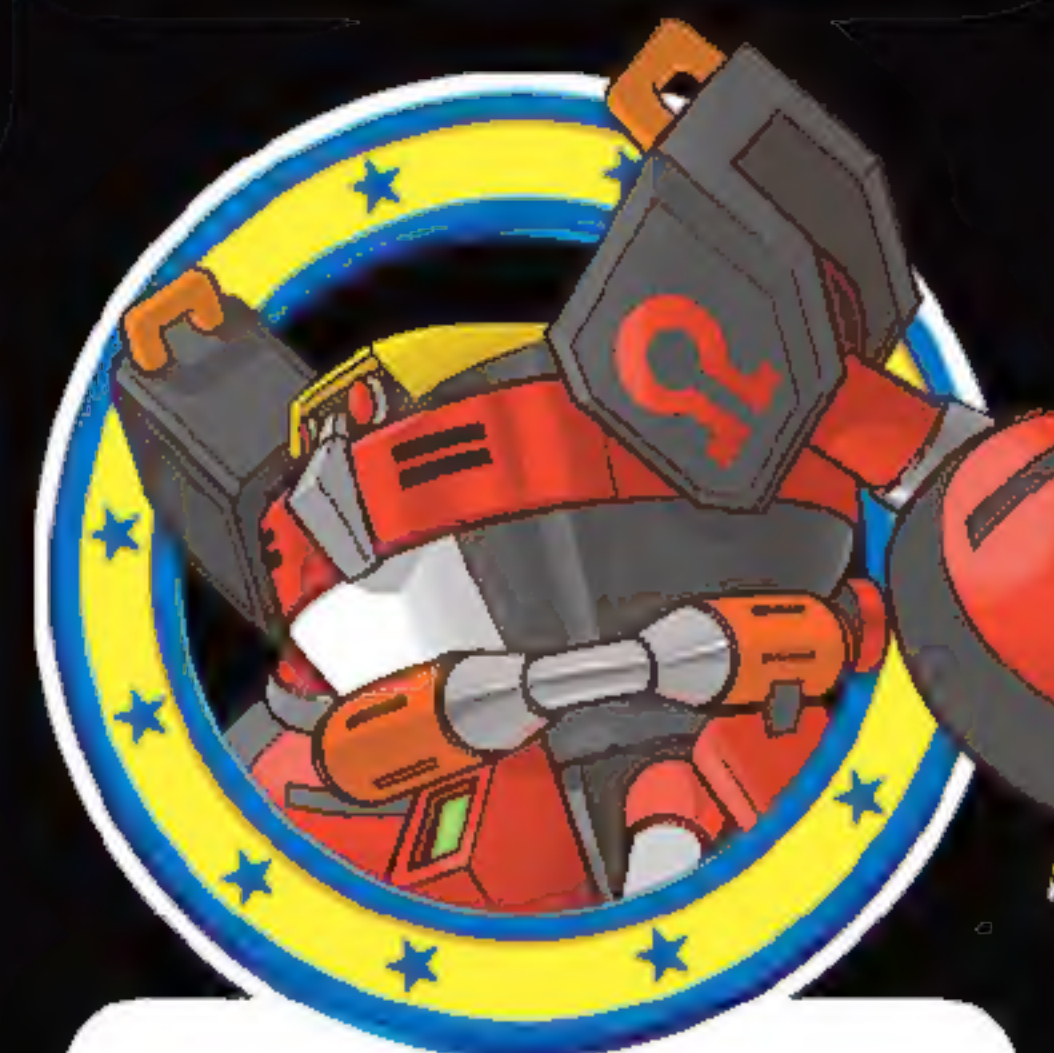
WHO'S WHO



**SHADOW
THE HEDGEHOG**
THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM



ROUGE THE BAT
SUPER SPY



E-123 OMEGA
ROGUE BADNIK



BLACK ARMS
EVIL ALIENS

SONIC UNIVERSE (ISSN: 2157-3050), No. 59, February, 2014. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Jonathan Goldwater, Publisher/Co-CEO, Nancy Silberkleit, Co-CEO, Mike Pellerito, President, Victor Gorelick, Co-President. Single copies \$2.99. Subscription rate: \$35.88 for 12 issues. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. SEGA, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters and indicia are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2013. SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM, LTD./SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2013. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 350 Rhode Island Street, Ste 400, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC UNIVERSE, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in USA.

"LOCK 'N' LOAD,
SPIDER TROUPE.
WE GO HOT IN
FIVE."



WE'VE MASKED OUR APPROACH,
BUT IF THOSE BUG-EYED FREAKS
HAVE ANY WINDOWS ON THAT
THING, THEY KNOW WE'RE
COMING.

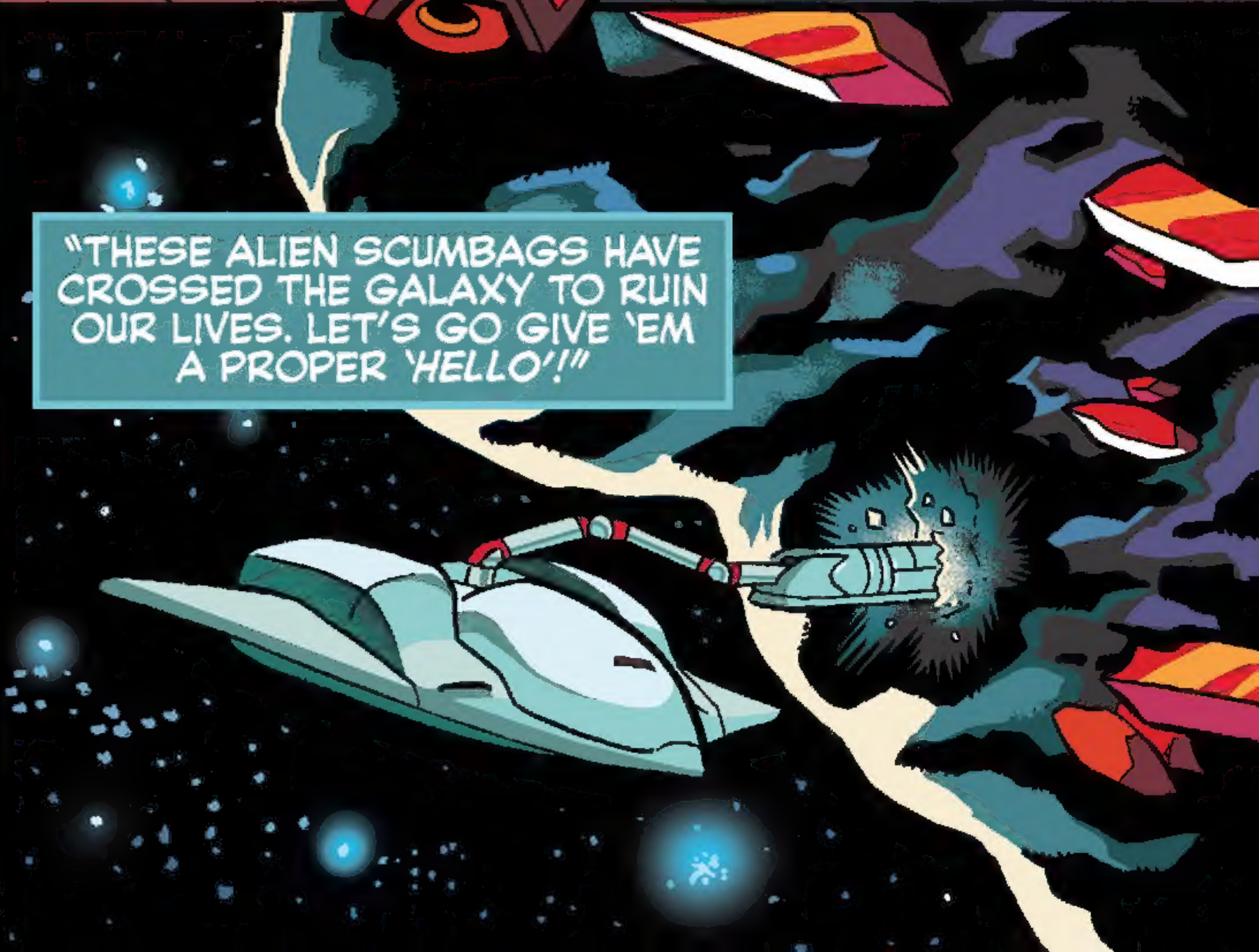


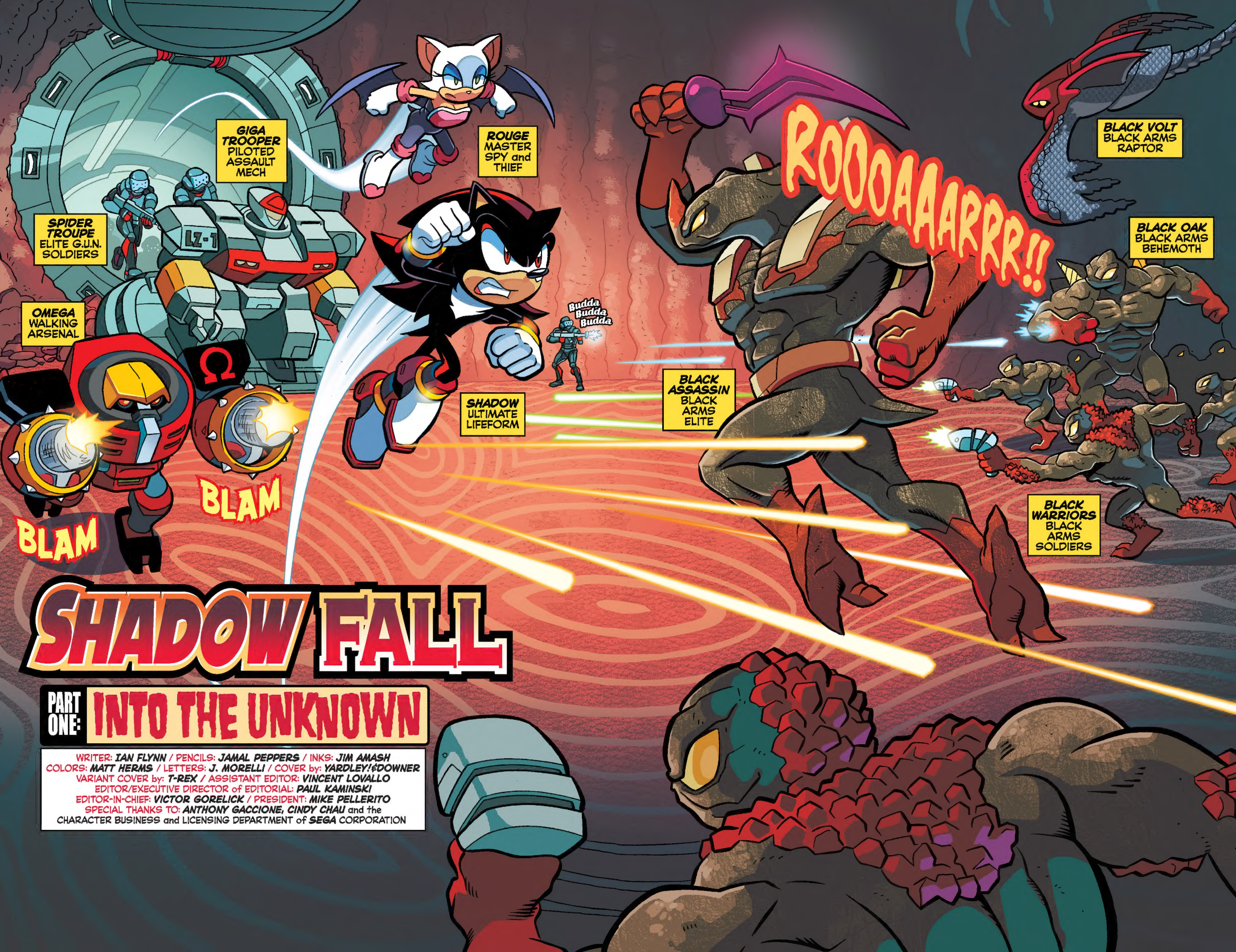
DO NOT ACCEPT A WARM WELCOME.
THE MINUTE WE DOCK, YOU ARE ALL
CLEARED TO FIRE AT WILL.

DOCK!
DOCK!
DOCK!



"THESE ALIEN SCUMBAGS HAVE
CROSSED THE GALAXY TO RUIN
OUR LIVES. LET'S GO GIVE 'EM
A PROPER 'HELLO'!"





GIGA TROOPER PILOTED ASSAULT MECH

ROUGE MASTER SPY and THIEF

SPIDER TROUPE ELITE G.U.N. SOLDIERS

OMEGA WALKING ARSENAL

Budda Budda Budda

SHADOW ULTIMATE LIFEFORM

BLACK ASSASSIN BLACK ARMS ELITE

BLACK VOLT BLACK ARMS RAPTOR

BLACK OAK BLACK ARMS BEHEMOTH

BLACK WARRIORS BLACK ARMS SOLDIERS

BLAM

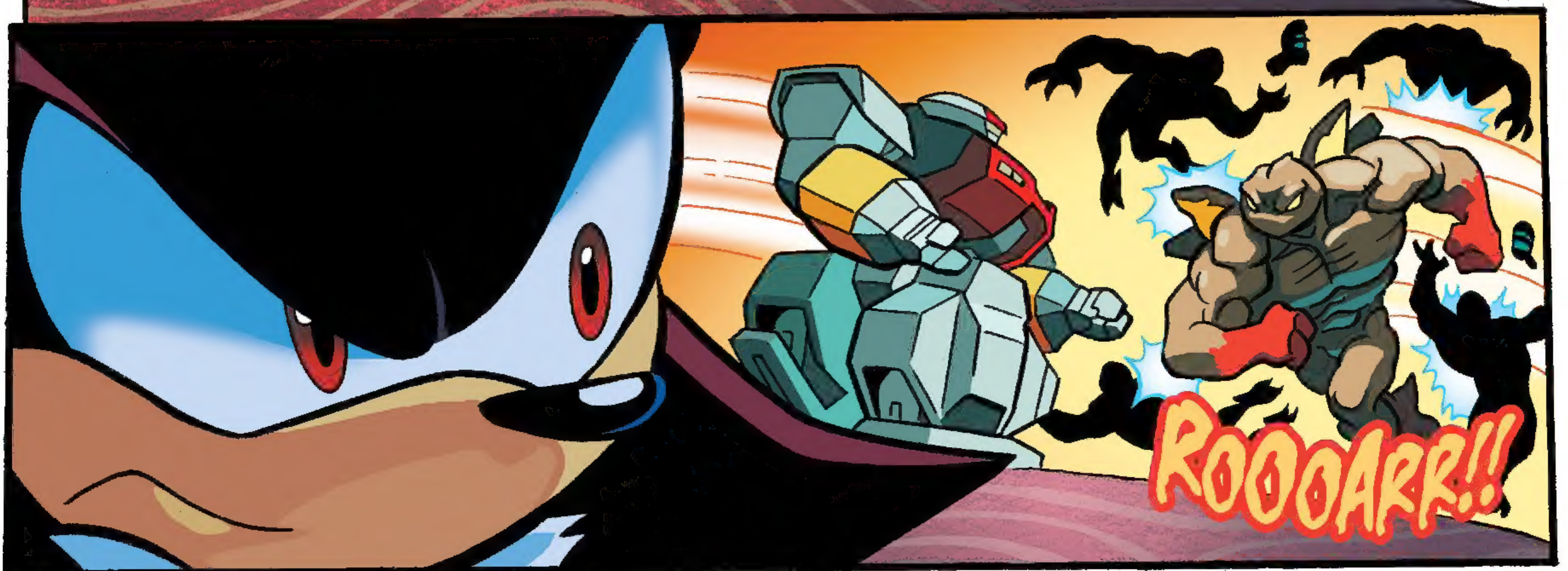
BLAM

ROOOOARRR!!

SHADOW FALL

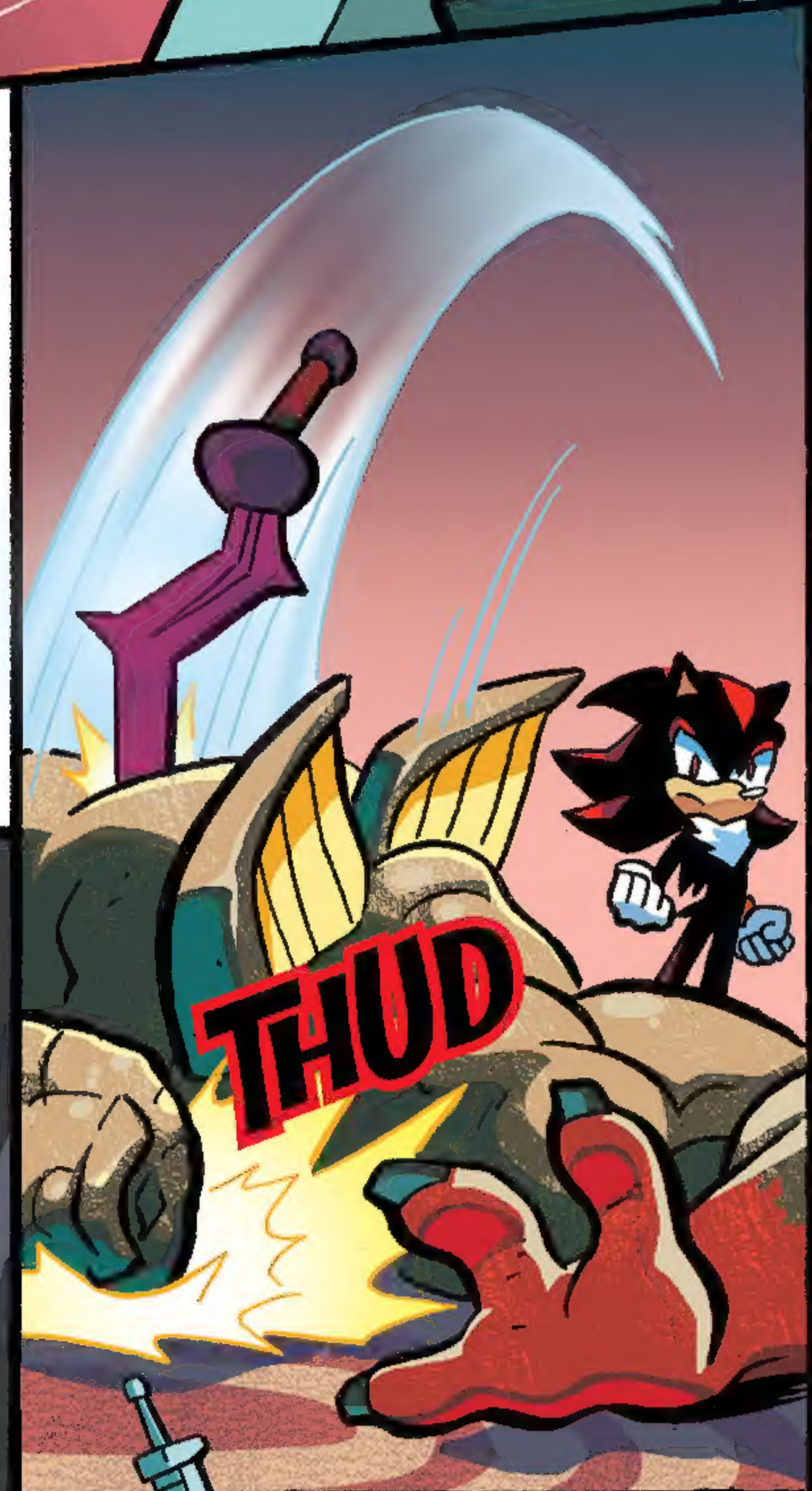
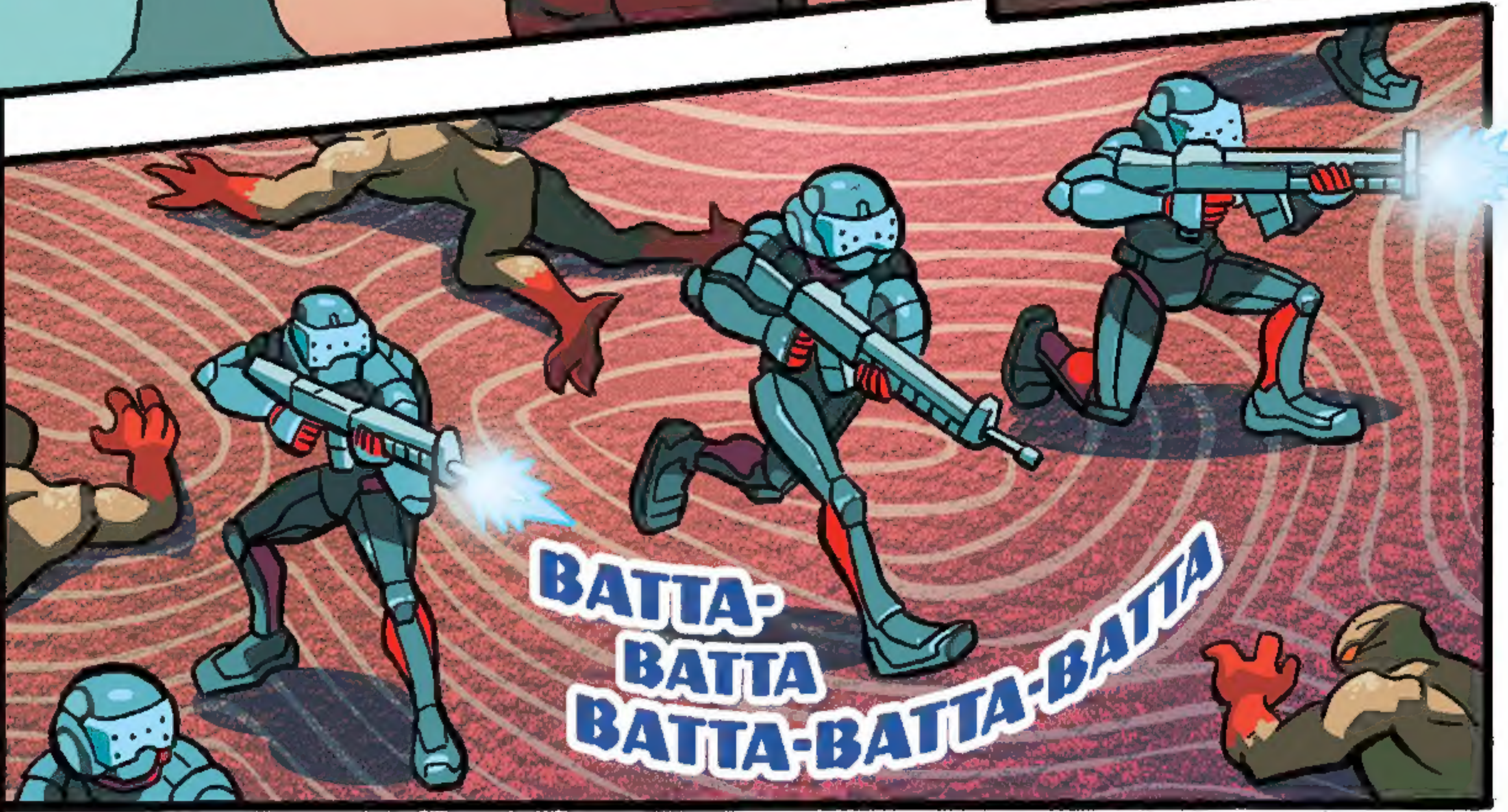
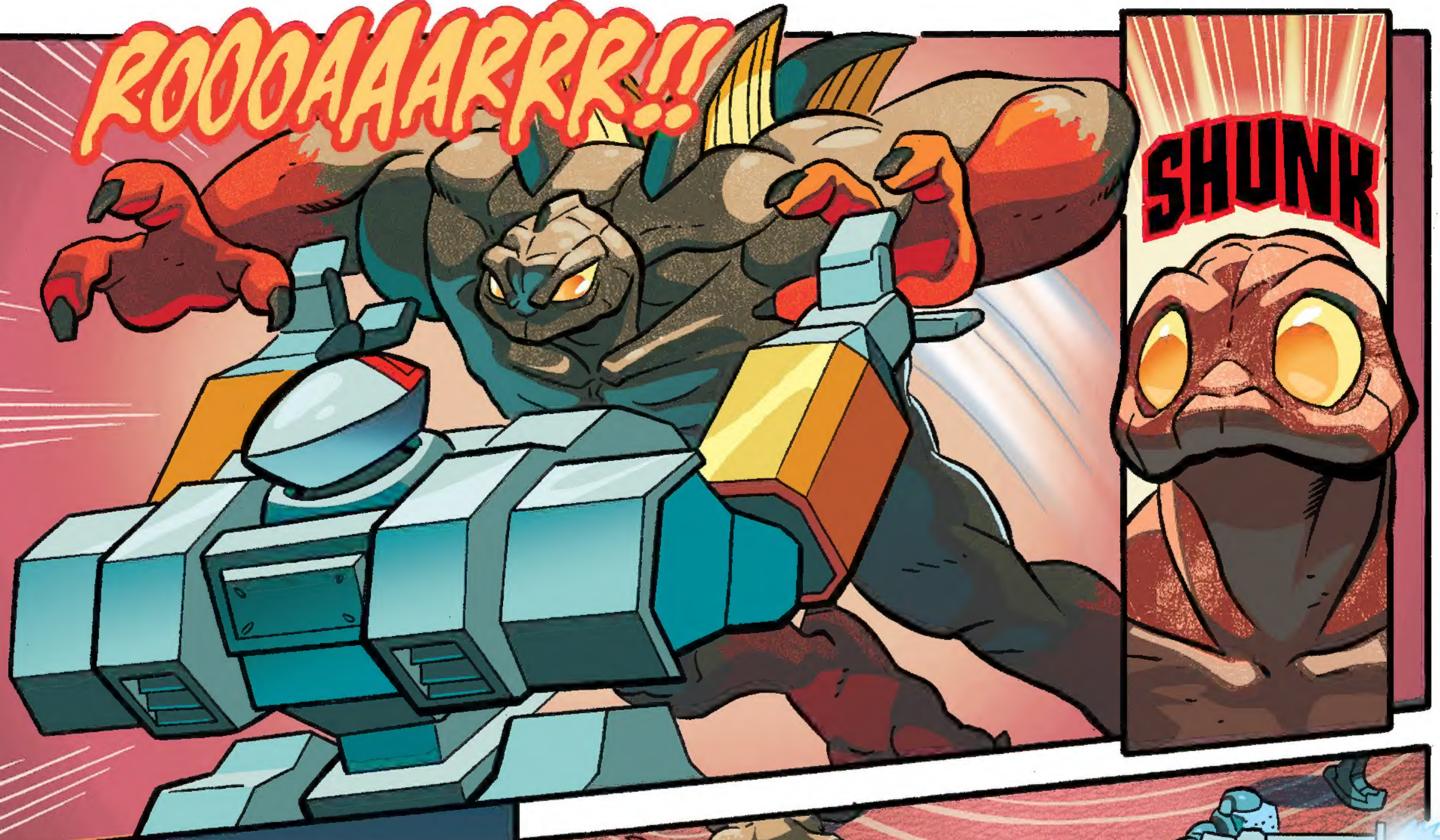
PART ONE: INTO THE UNKNOWN

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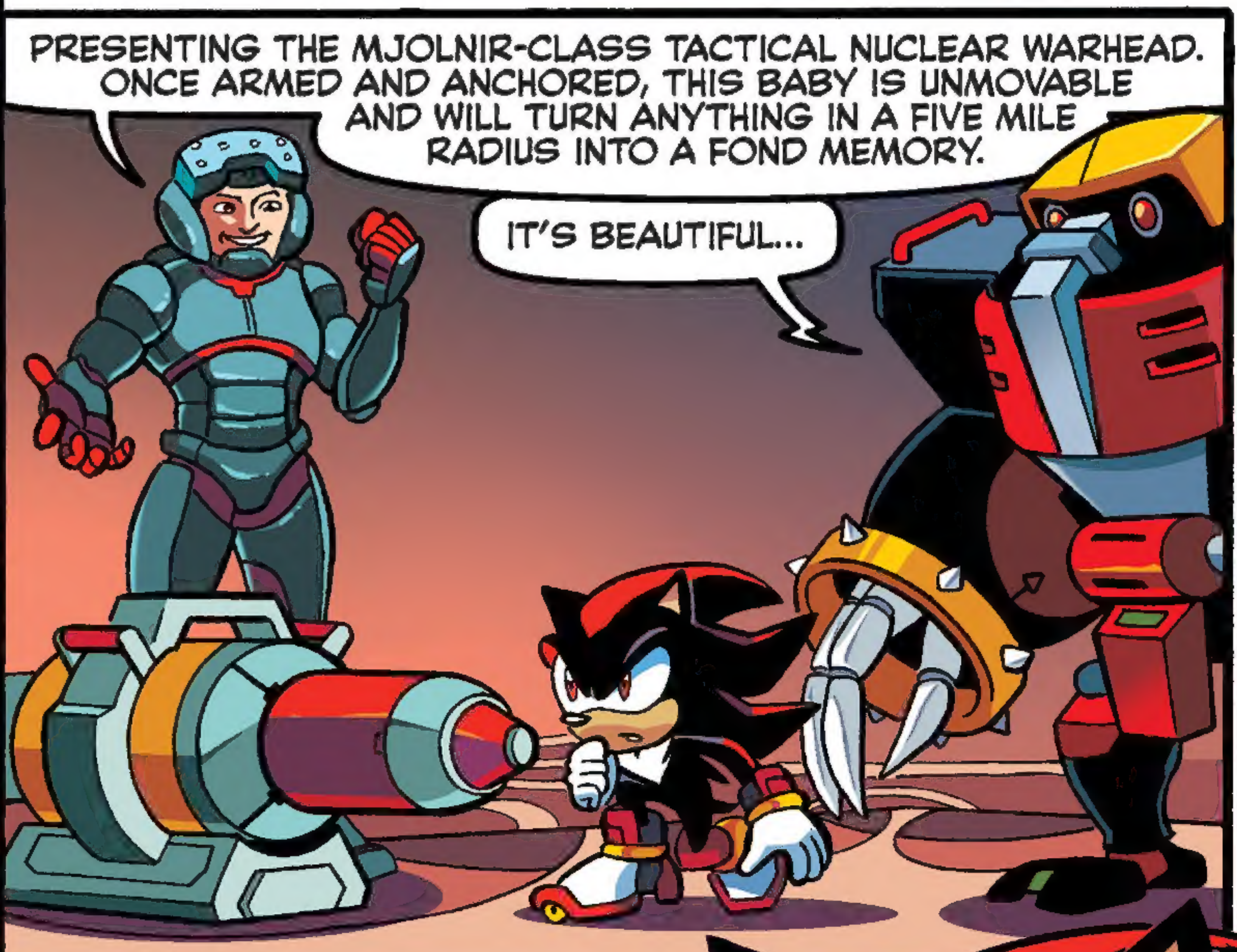
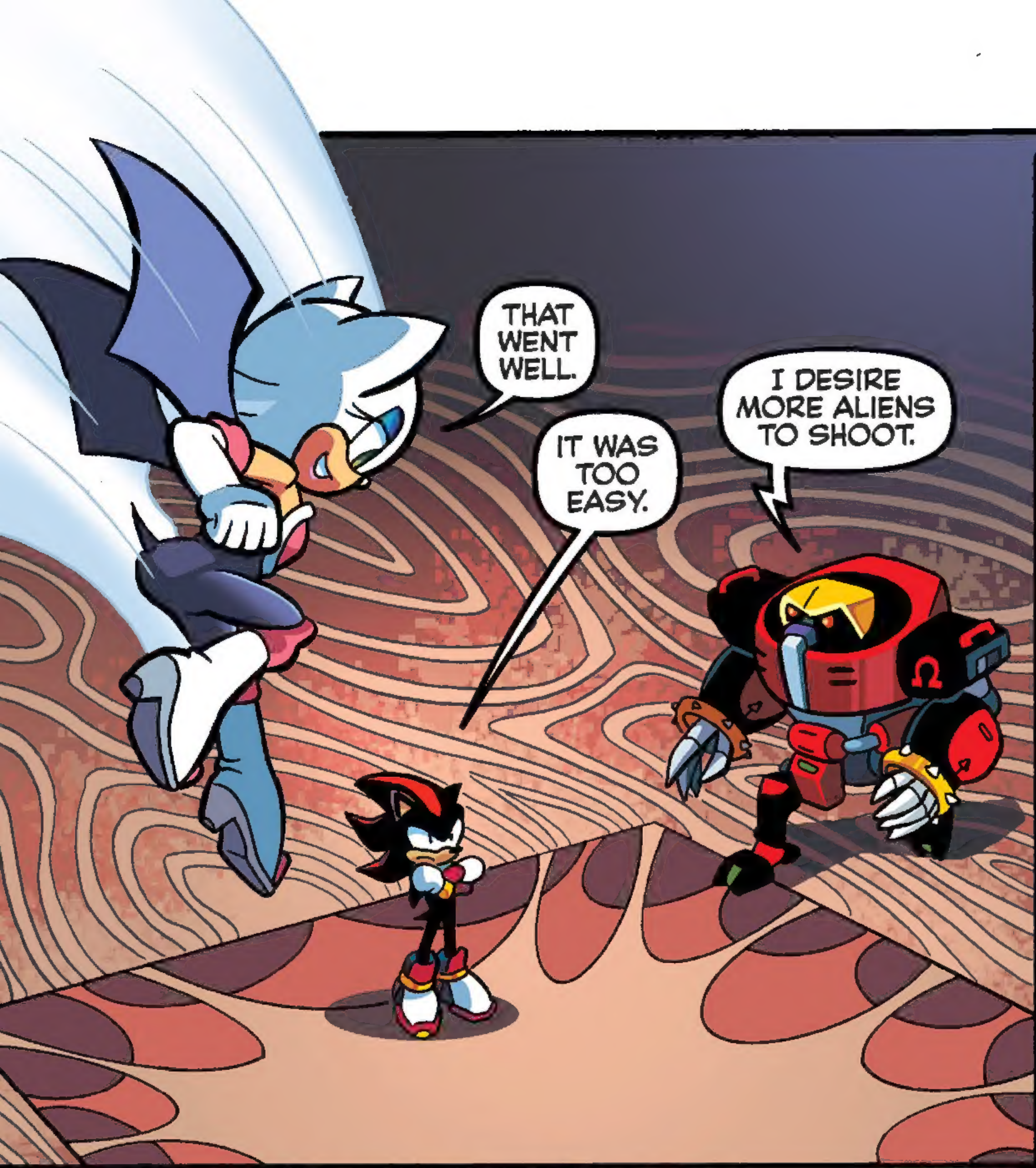
ROOOAAARRR!!

SHUNK



THAT'S THE LAST OF 'EM! GET THE WOUNDED TO THE SHUTTLE AND LET'S SET UP A PERIMETER, PEOPLE!





EARLIER--
G.U.N. HQ

COMMANDER TOWER
G.U.N. COMMANDER

...A NEW MISSION FOR BOTH SPIDER TROUPE AND TEAM DARK. AS WE SPEAK, THE FLYING FLEET AND MAJORITY OF OUR FORCES ARE DEVOTED TO OPERATION: TRIAGE TO DEAL WITH THE SHATTERING OF THE PLANET.*

*STH #256

BUT ANOTHER CRISIS HAS ARISEN. WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU MUST REMAIN STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. IF THE PUBLIC WERE TO LEARN OF THIS, THE ALREADY TERRIBLE SITUATION WILL SPIRAL OUT OF CONTROL.

OUT WITH IT, THEN.

WE'VE DETECTED A NEW BLACK COMET ON A DIRECT COURSE FOR OUR WORLD. THE BLACK ARMS ARE BACK.

INBOUND 361,200 KM
AND CLOSING



IMPOSSIBLE.

ARE WE SURE?
THE ECLIPSE CANNON
BLEW UP THE BLACK
COMET, AND SHADOW
ALREADY DESTROYED
THE CORE TO THEIR
HIVE MIND.*

*THE BLACK COMET'S
FIRST ATTACK WAS IN
SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG
THE VIDEO GAME.



ALL OF THE
ARK'S SENSORY
DATA CONFIRMS
IT.

SHADOW.

YOU SPENT THE
MOST TIME WITHIN
THEIR RANKS. YOU'RE
PART ALIEN YOURSELF.
CAN YOU PROVIDE US
WITH ANY INSIGHT?

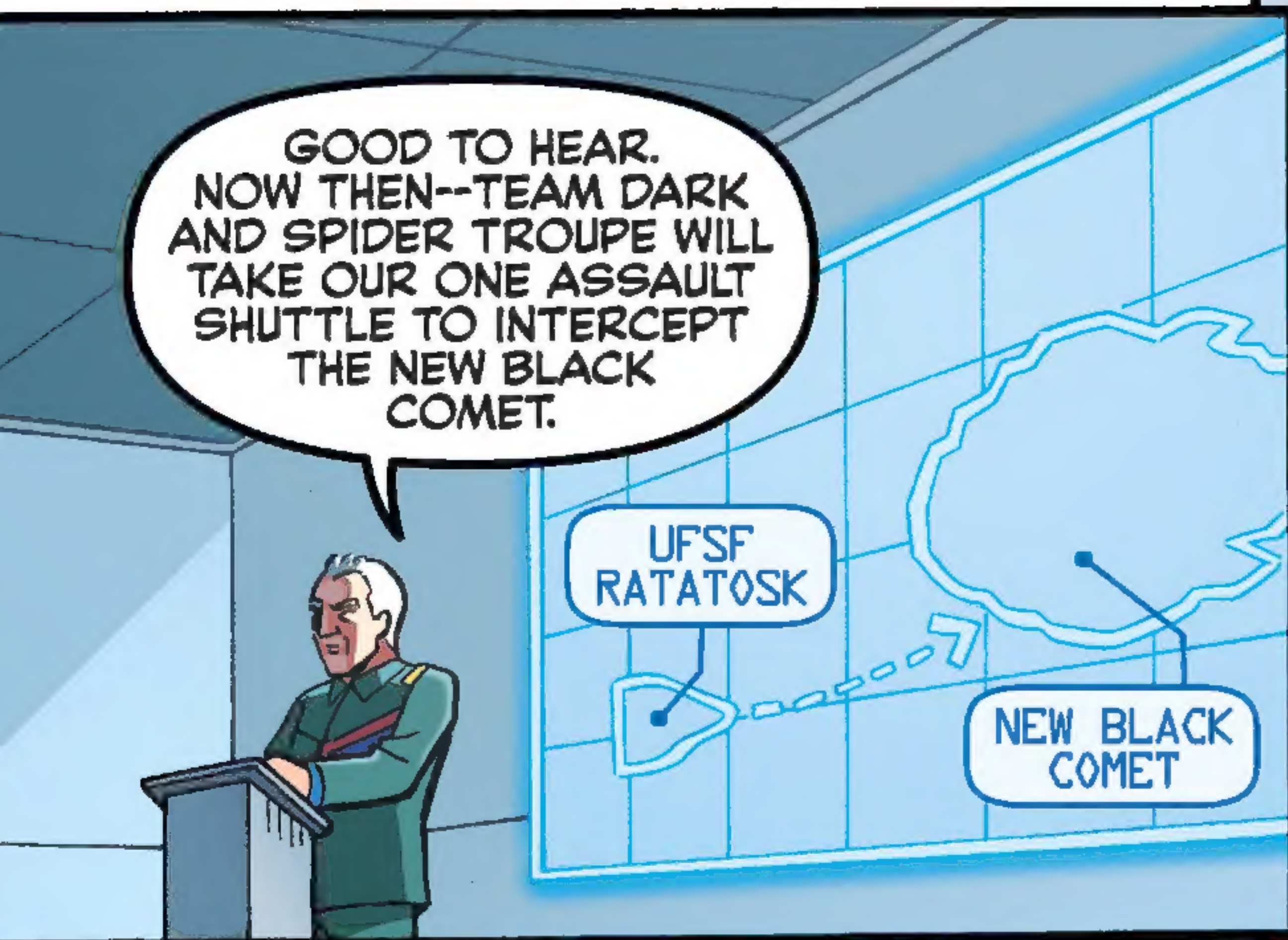


THEIR LEADER,
BLACK DOOM...
DID NOT SHARE MUCH
WITH ME. ANY
DISCUSSIONS WE
HAD WERE ABOUT THE
INVASION, NOT ABOUT...
OTHER BLACK ARMS
COLONIES...



REGARDLESS--IF THESE
ARE THE BLACK ARMS, OR
IMPOSTERS, THEY POSE
A THREAT TO THE WORLD
I'VE SWORN TO PROTECT.
I WILL DESTROY THEM.

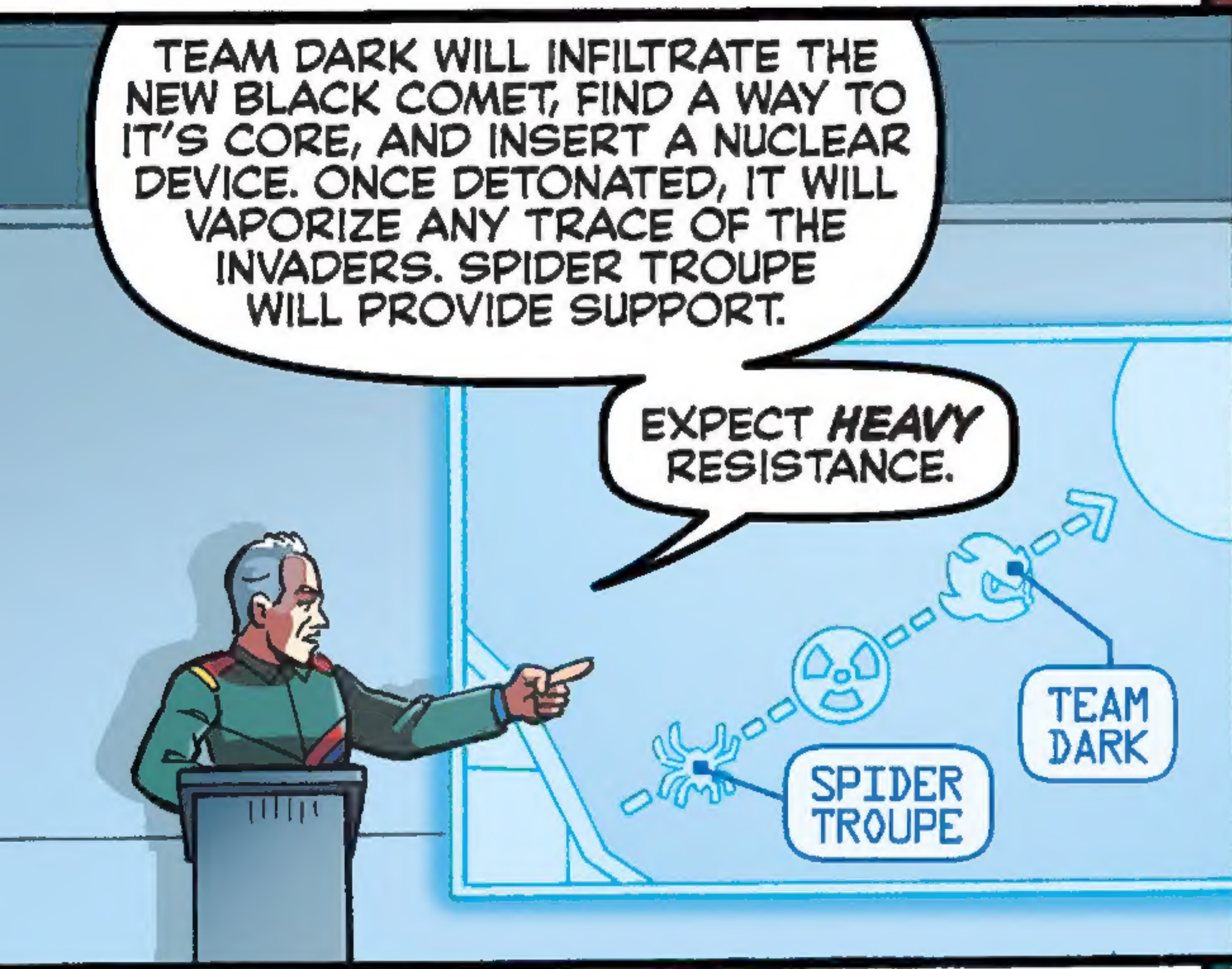




GOOD TO HEAR. NOW THEN--TEAM DARK AND SPIDER TROUPE WILL TAKE OUR ONE ASSAULT SHUTTLE TO INTERCEPT THE NEW BLACK COMET.

UFSF RATATOSK

NEW BLACK COMET



TEAM DARK WILL INFILTRATE THE NEW BLACK COMET, FIND A WAY TO IT'S CORE, AND INSERT A NUCLEAR DEVICE. ONCE DETONATED, IT WILL VAPORIZE ANY TRACE OF THE INVADERS. SPIDER TROUPE WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT.

EXPECT HEAVY RESISTANCE.

SPIDER TROUPE

TEAM DARK



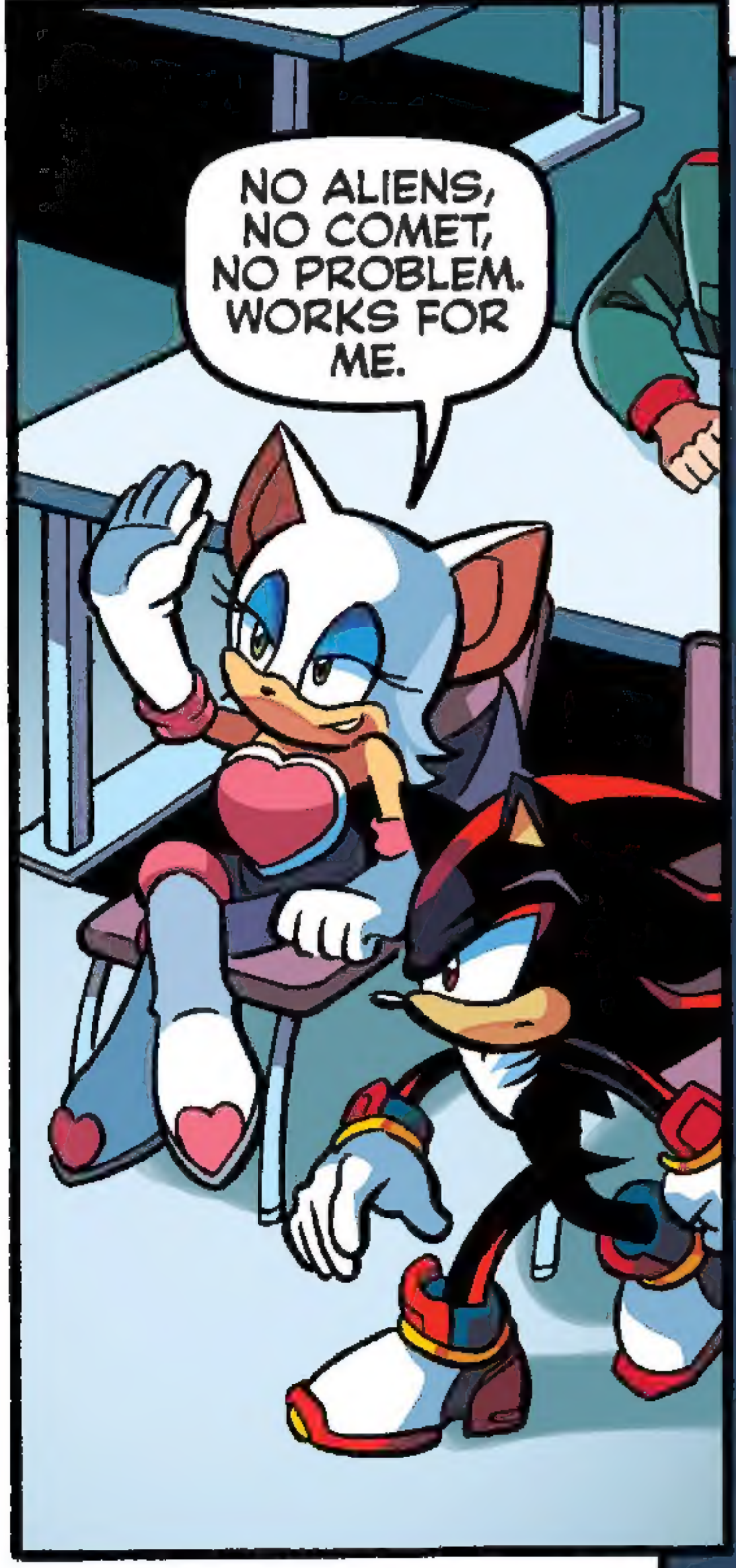
SIR, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, ISN'T THAT A BIT OVERKILL?

IT'S THE SIMPLEST OPTION. EVEN IF WE COULD ELIMINATE ALL THE ALIEN FORCES INSIDE--

I COULD DO IT.

--THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THE UNPILOTED COMET WOULDN'T HIT US. THE PLANET OBVIOUSLY DOESN'T NEED ANY MORE DAMAGE. WE'RE BLOWING IT UP TO REMOVE ALL POTENTIAL THREATS.

I COULD DO THAT AS WELL!



NO ALIENS, NO COMET, NO PROBLEM. WORKS FOR ME.



YOU'RE ALL DISMISSED.

ROUGE? OMEGA? A WORD, PLEASE.

Now

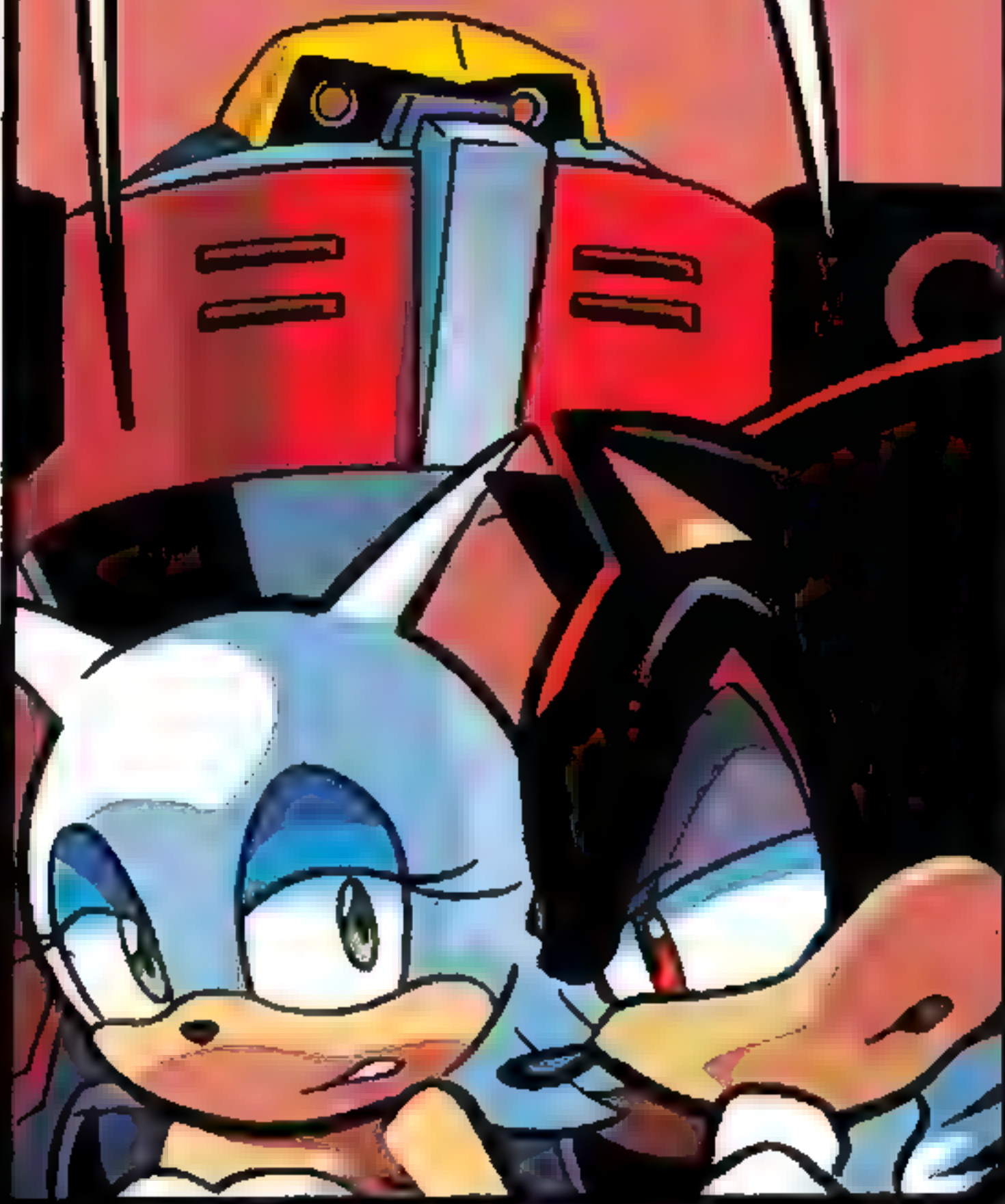
PERIMETER SECURE. ALL HOSTILES CONFIRMED NEUTRALIZED.

GOOD WORK, COOPER. LET'S GET READY FOR THE NEXT PUSH.



SO...THESE CERTAINLY SEEM LIKE THE SAME TYPES OF ALIENS WE FOUGHT BEFORE. STILL THINK THEY'RE IMPOSTERS?

I...DON'T KNOW. I SENSED THAT THE BLACK ARMS WERE ONE RACE, ALL IN THE SAME PLACE.



"SENSED?"

I SHARE A... LOOSE CONNECTION WITH THEIR HIVE-MIND. THEIR BLOOD IS IN MY VEINS. I CAN... KNOW SOME OF WHAT THEY KNOW. FEEL THEM MOVING THROUGH THE COMET...



WELL...DON'T GO TOO DEEP INTO THEIR THOUGHTS. WE DON'T WANT YOU THINKING LIKE YOU'RE ONE OF THEM.

Hmph. WE'RE WASTING TIME. LET'S GO.



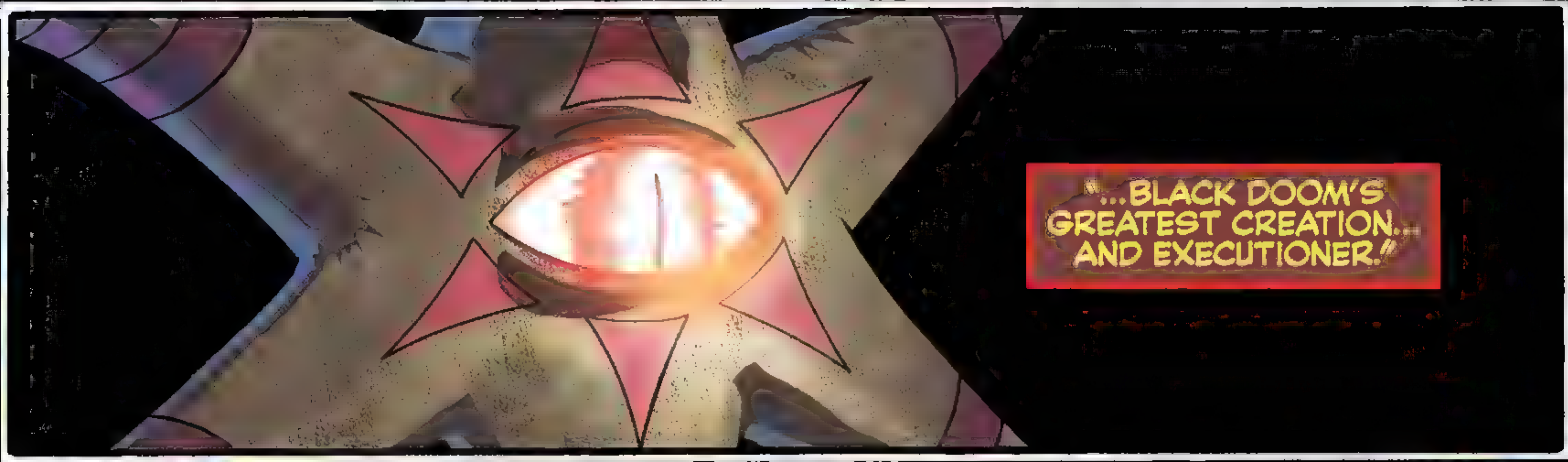


SPIDER TROUPE WILL TRANSPORT THE NUKE WHILE TOWER'S PET FREAKS TAKE THE POINT.

SOUND GOOD TO YOU?

TRY NOT TO GET KILLED.


AND HERE THEY COME. HERE HE COMES.




...BLACK DOOM'S GREATEST CREATION... AND EXECUTIONER.

I KNEW THIS MEETING WOULD BE INEVITABLE. I JUST ASSUMED IT WOULD BE MORE ON MY TERMS.






PERHAPS IT'S FOR THE BEST. THE HUMANS WILL PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED NOURISHMENT FOR MY SMALL ARMY. IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG SINCE WE HAD A PROPER MEAL...



...ESPECIALLY SINCE WE DELAYED OURSELVES FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR EXPERIMENT.

THE DARK ARMS WILL MAKE US **STRONG**, MY MASTER. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, YOUR CHILDREN **NEED STRENGTH**.



TRUE ENOUGH. AND YOU... YOU WILL GET TO FULFILL YOUR PURPOSE EARLIER THAN EXPECTED. SHADOW WILL PAY FOR HIS TREASON.

OF COURSE-- IF HE CANNOT BE SHOWN THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS.

AFTER ALL, WE'RE SO FEW NOW. I'D HATE TO LOSE A... BROTHER.



Y'KNOW, I JOKED ABOUT THERE BEING PLENTY OF ALIENS TO FIGHT...

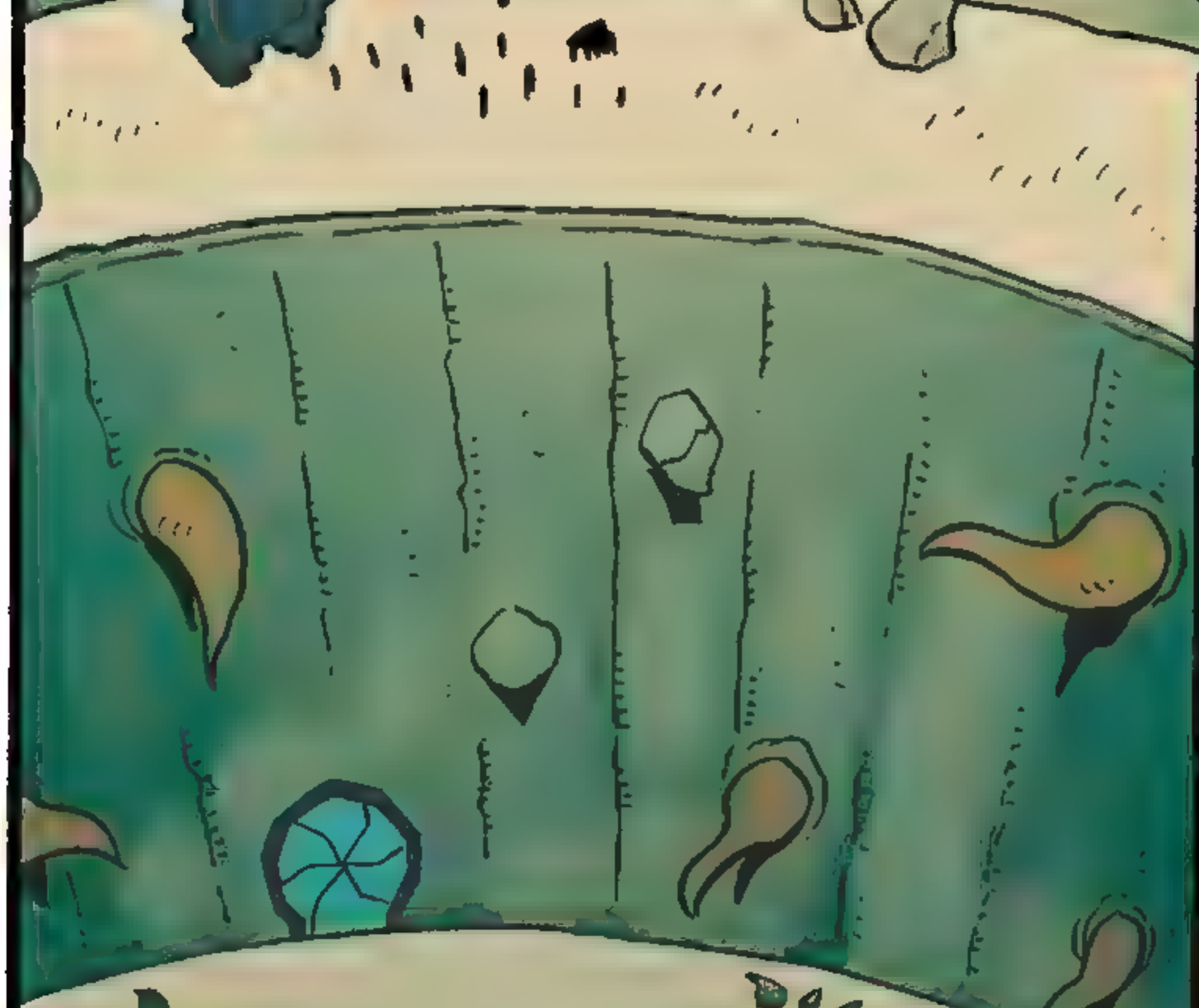


...BUT NOW I THINK THEY'RE HIDING JUST TO SPITE ME.



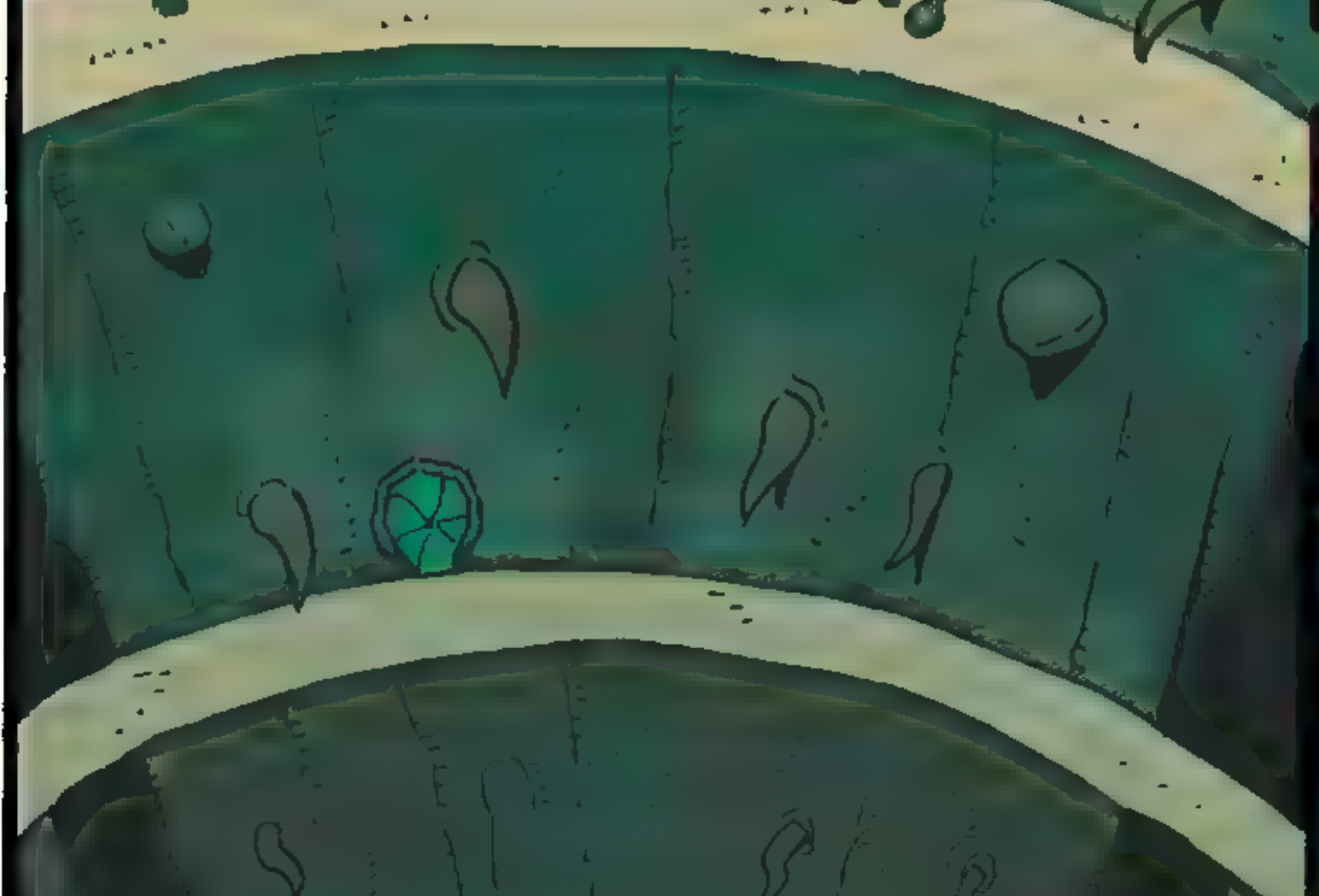
IS OUR PROGRESSION MAKING ANY SENSE TO YOU?

NEGATIVE. THE STRUCTURAL DESIGN IS AS ALIEN AS THEIR TECHNOLOGY.



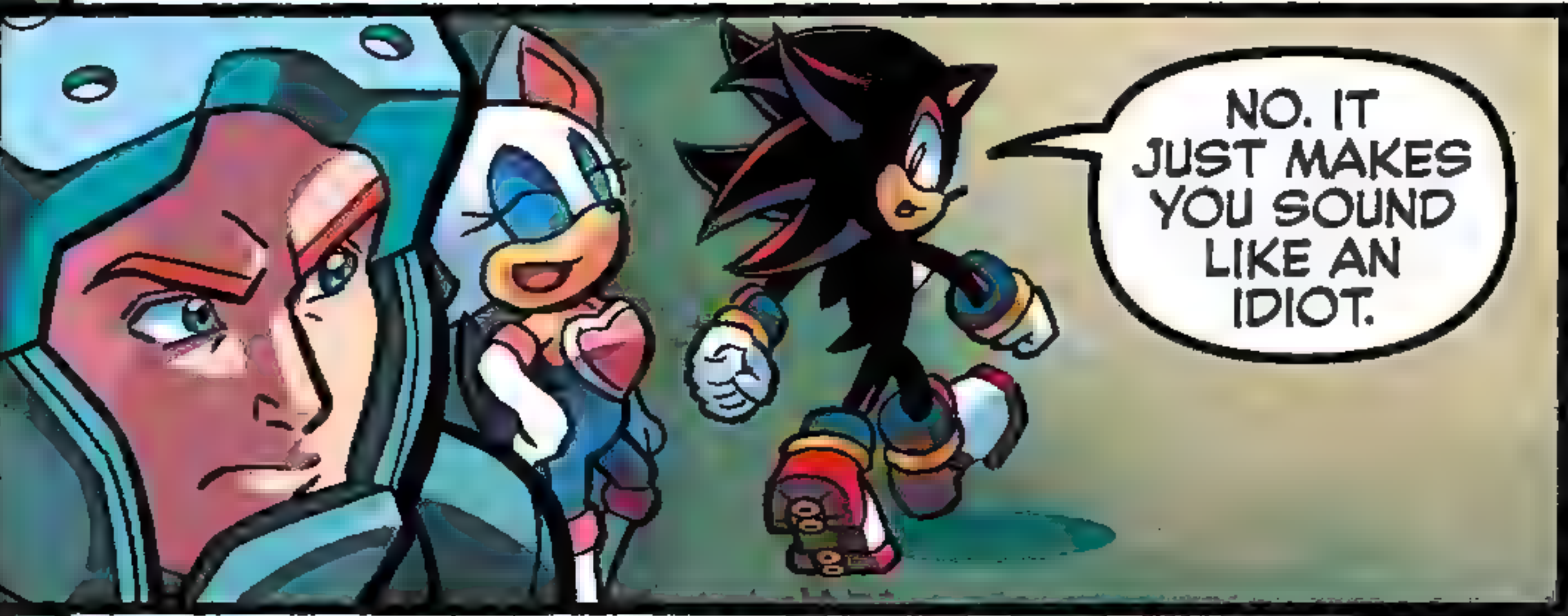
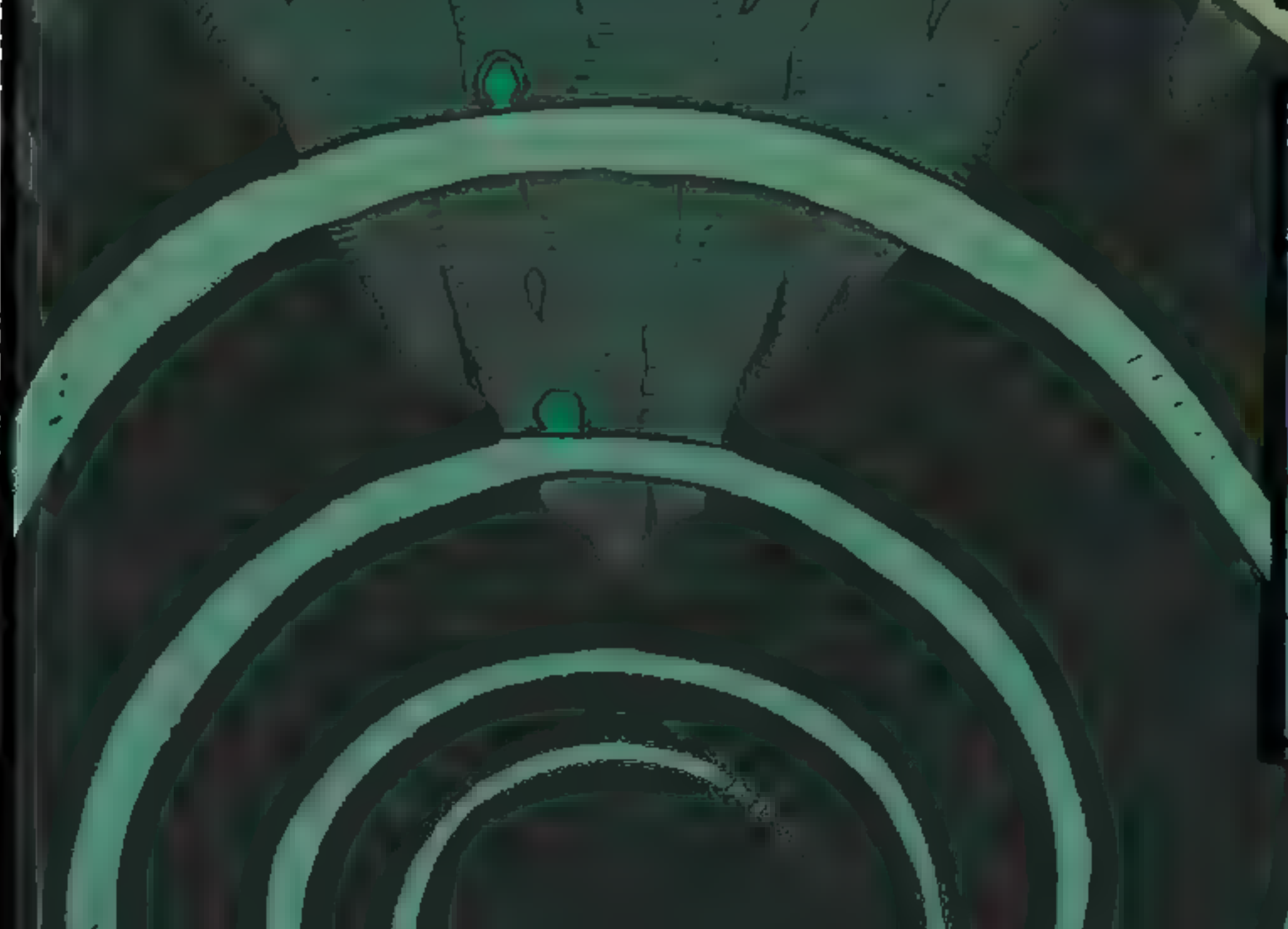
PROPOSAL: I SHOOT US A NEW HALL-WAY.

TAKE IT EASY, TIN-MAN. WE'VE GOT OUR RESIDENT ALIEN-HYBRID-THING TO SHOW US THE WAY.



ARE YOU TRYING TO ANTAGONIZE ME?

MAYBE. WHY? DOES IT HURT YOUR WITTLE FEEWINGS?



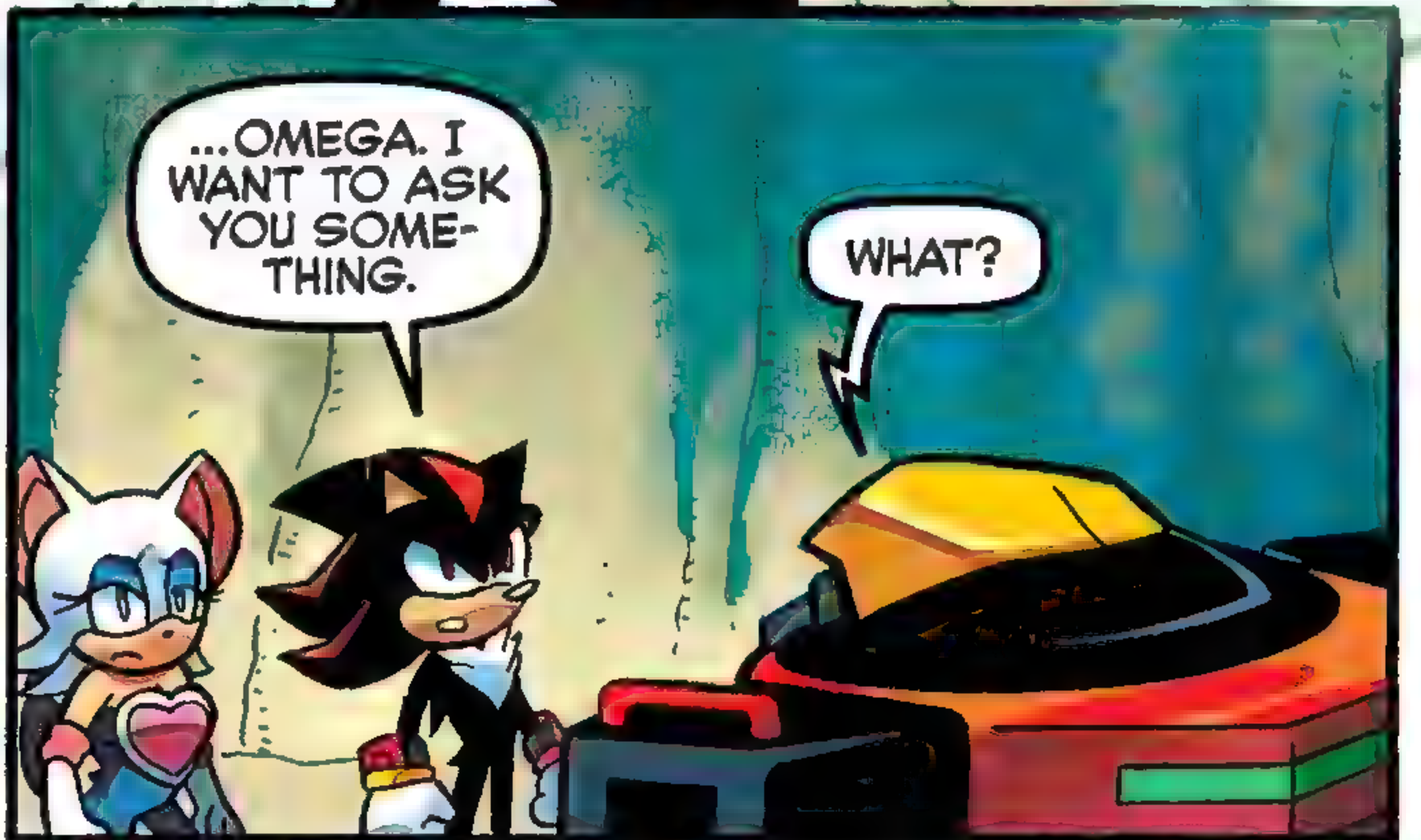
NO. IT JUST MAKES YOU SOUND LIKE AN IDIOT.



...SHADOW?

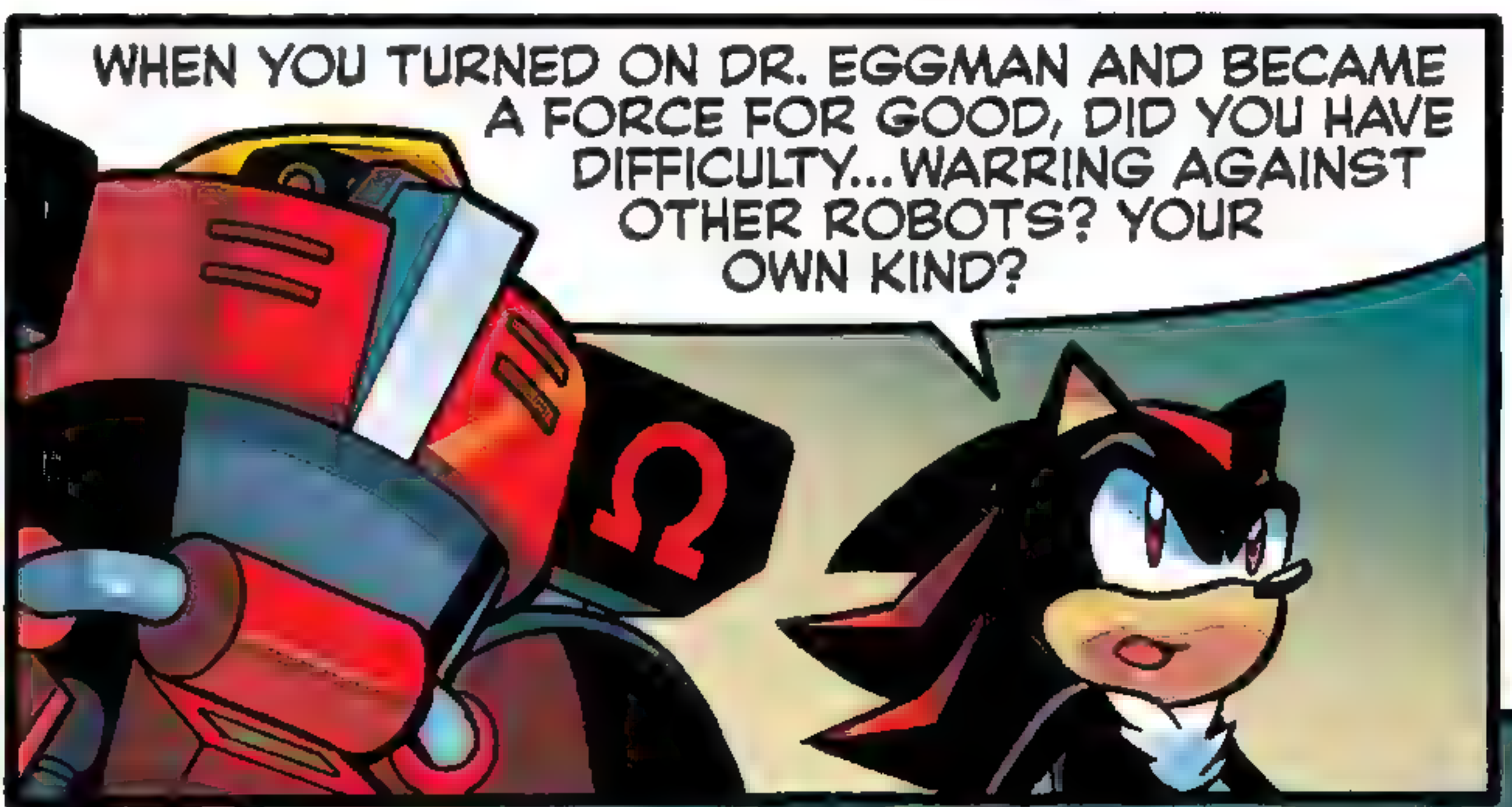
ARE YOU OKAY?

FINE. I'M...FINE. I WAS TRYING TO TAP INTO THE HIVE-MIND FOR... DIRECTION.

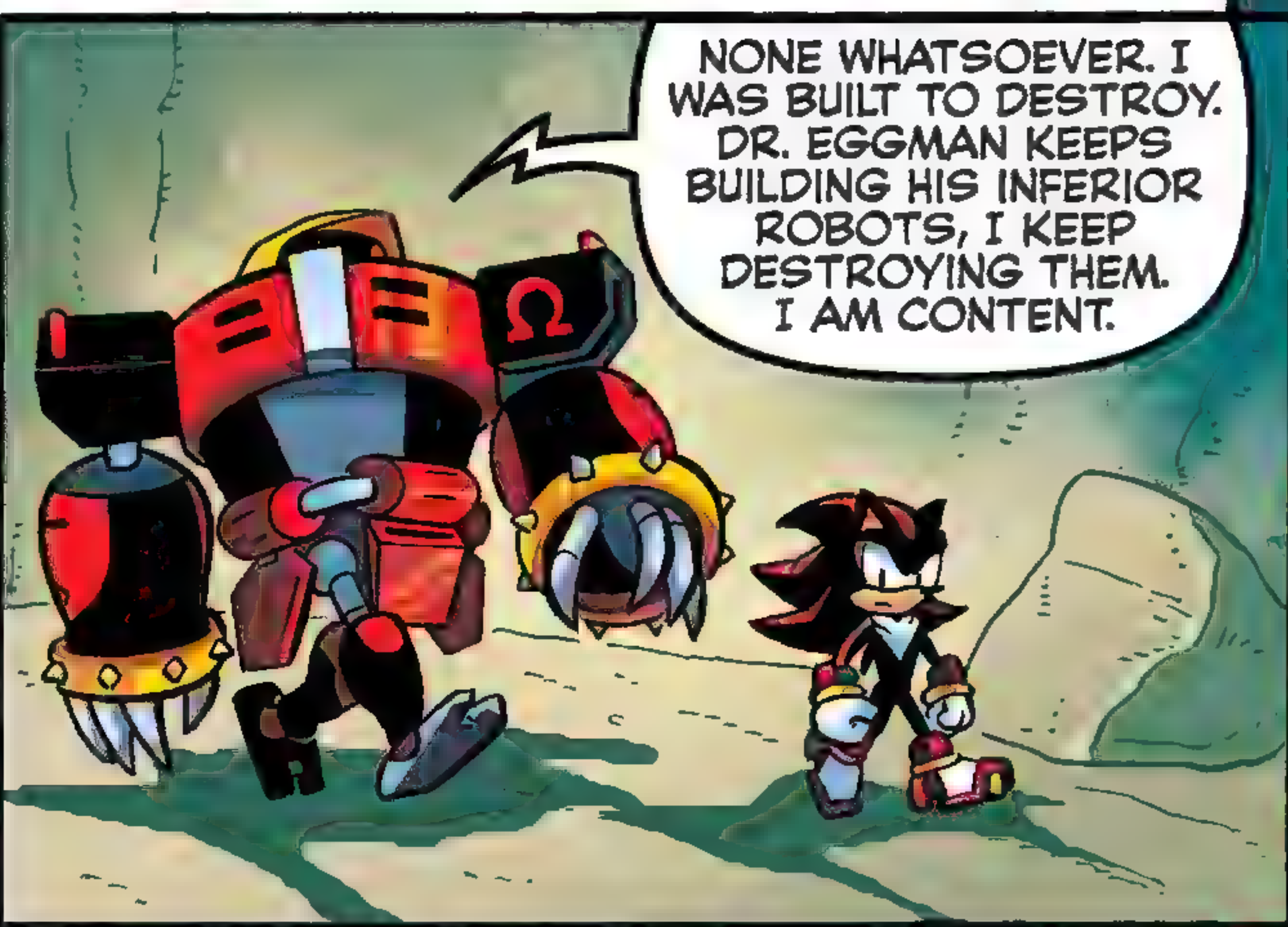


...OMEGA. I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.

WHAT?



WHEN YOU TURNED ON DR. EGGMAN AND BECAME A FORCE FOR GOOD, DID YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY... WARRING AGAINST OTHER ROBOTS? YOUR OWN KIND?



NONE WHATSOEVER. I WAS BUILT TO DESTROY. DR. EGGMAN KEEPS BUILDING HIS INFERIOR ROBOTS, I KEEP DESTROYING THEM. I AM CONTENT.



WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR QUERY?

...NO REASON. FORGET I ASKED.



DEAD END. COULD THE BLACK ARMS BE MESSING WITH YOU? SENDING YOU FALSE INFORMATION?

Hmmm...



I REMEMBER SEEING THAT GOOP-EY STUFF ALL OVER THE PLACE WHEN THE ALIENS HIT PRISON ISLAND. WHAT IS THAT GUNK?

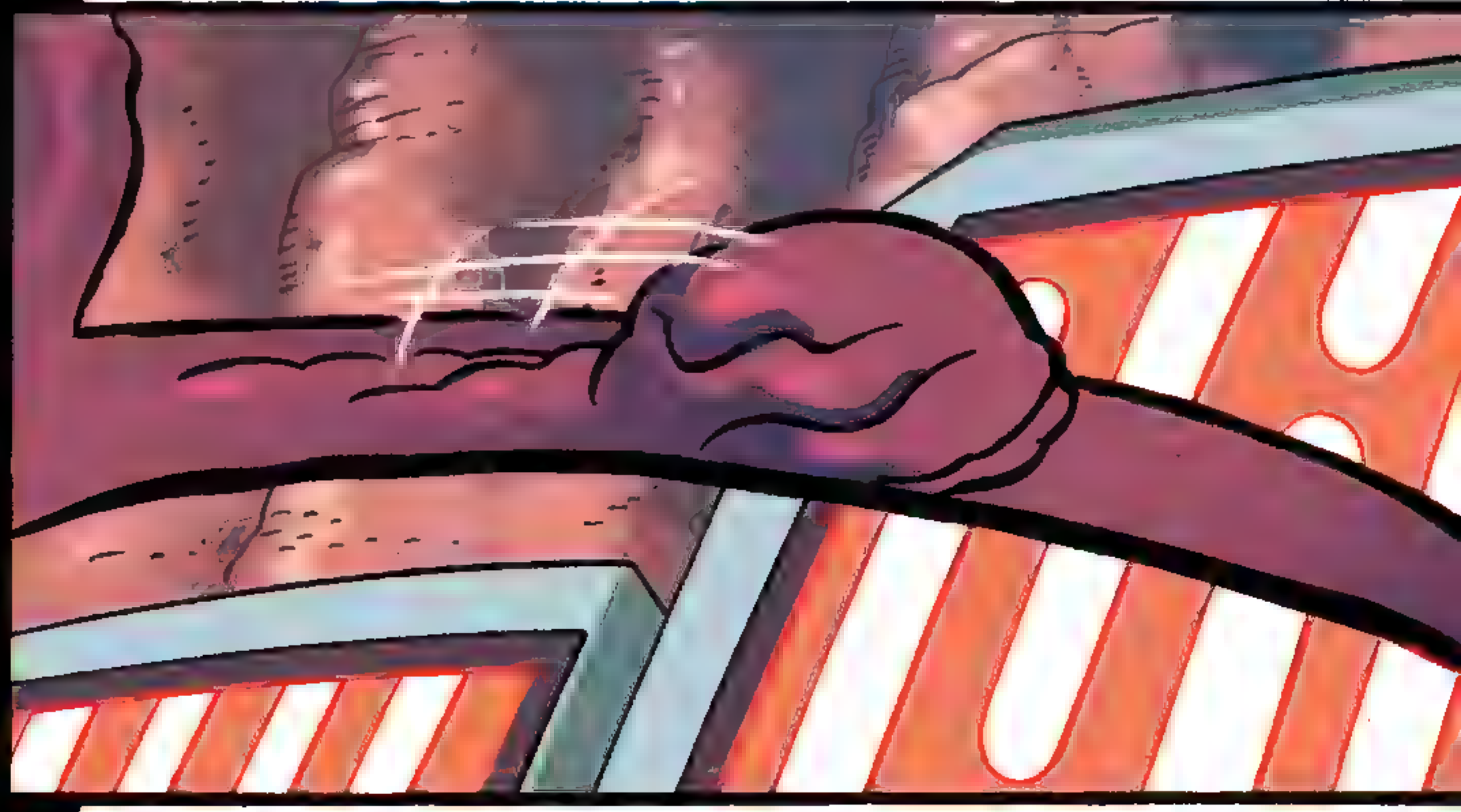
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO TRANSLATE IT... "CONDUIT GEL?" IT'S AN OOZING FUNGUS THE BLACK ARMS USE FOR QUICK TRANSPORT.

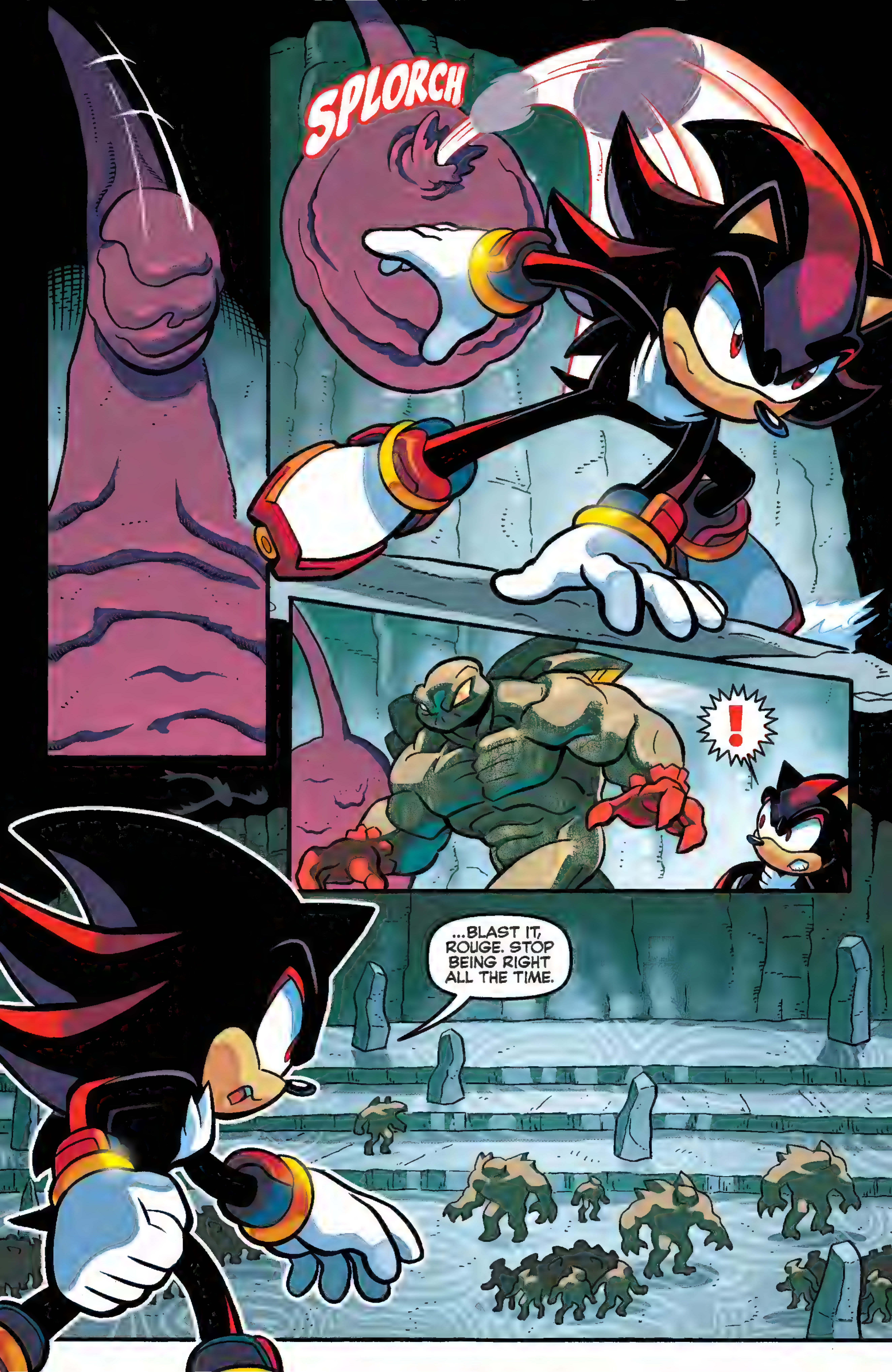
IS IT DIFFICULT TO USE?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE IF YOU'RE NOT A BLACK ARM--OR PART OF ONE. I'LL TAKE THIS AND SCOUT AHEAD.

YEAH, UH, NO? WE SHOULD STICK TOGETHER. WE'RE OUTNUMBERED IN HOSTILE TERRITORY, WE NEED YOU TO GUIDE US.

I'M ONLY SCOUTING. I'LL BE FINE.



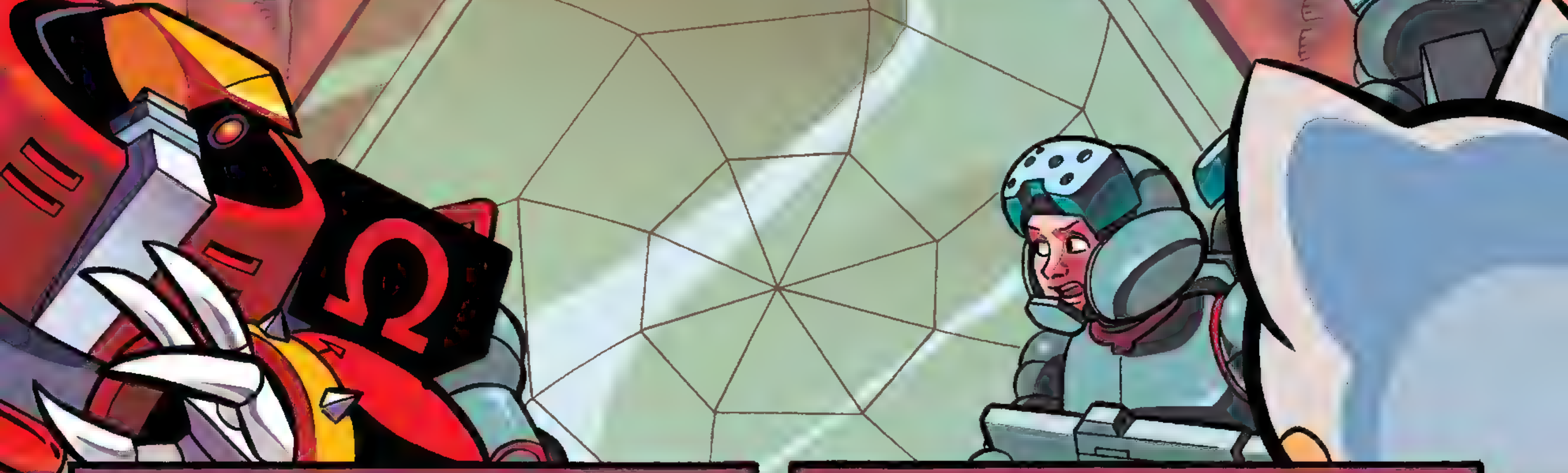


SPLORCH

!

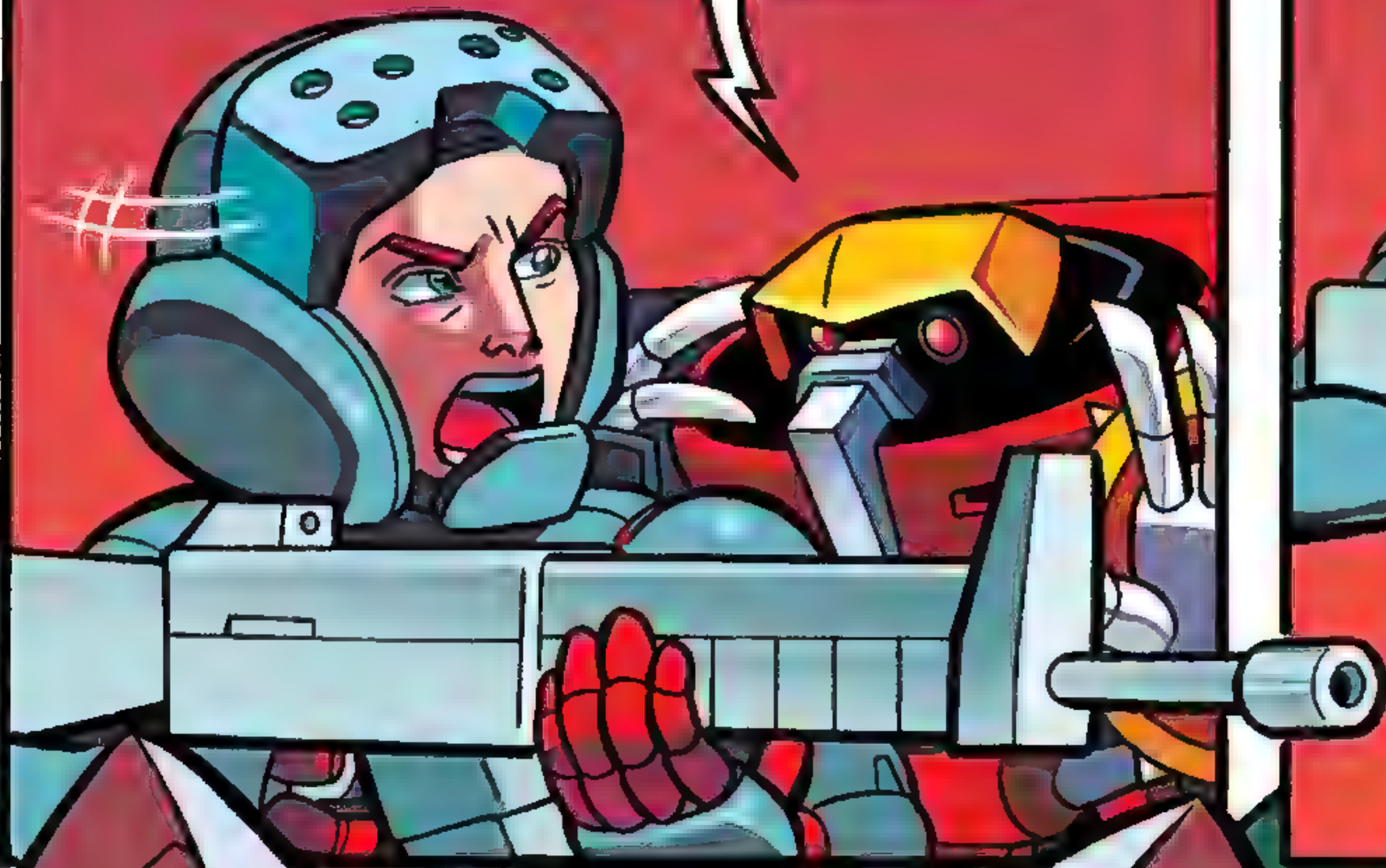
...BLAST IT, ROUGE. STOP BEING RIGHT ALL THE TIME.

SCHWOOP



SAFETIES OFF! WE'VE GOT INCOMING!

NEGATIVE--NO ALIEN LIFE SIGNS DETECTED. HOWEVER, I'M READING TRACE ELEMENTS OF AN AEROSOL NEUROTOXIN. TEN PARTS PER MILLION ...THIRTY PARTS... RISING...



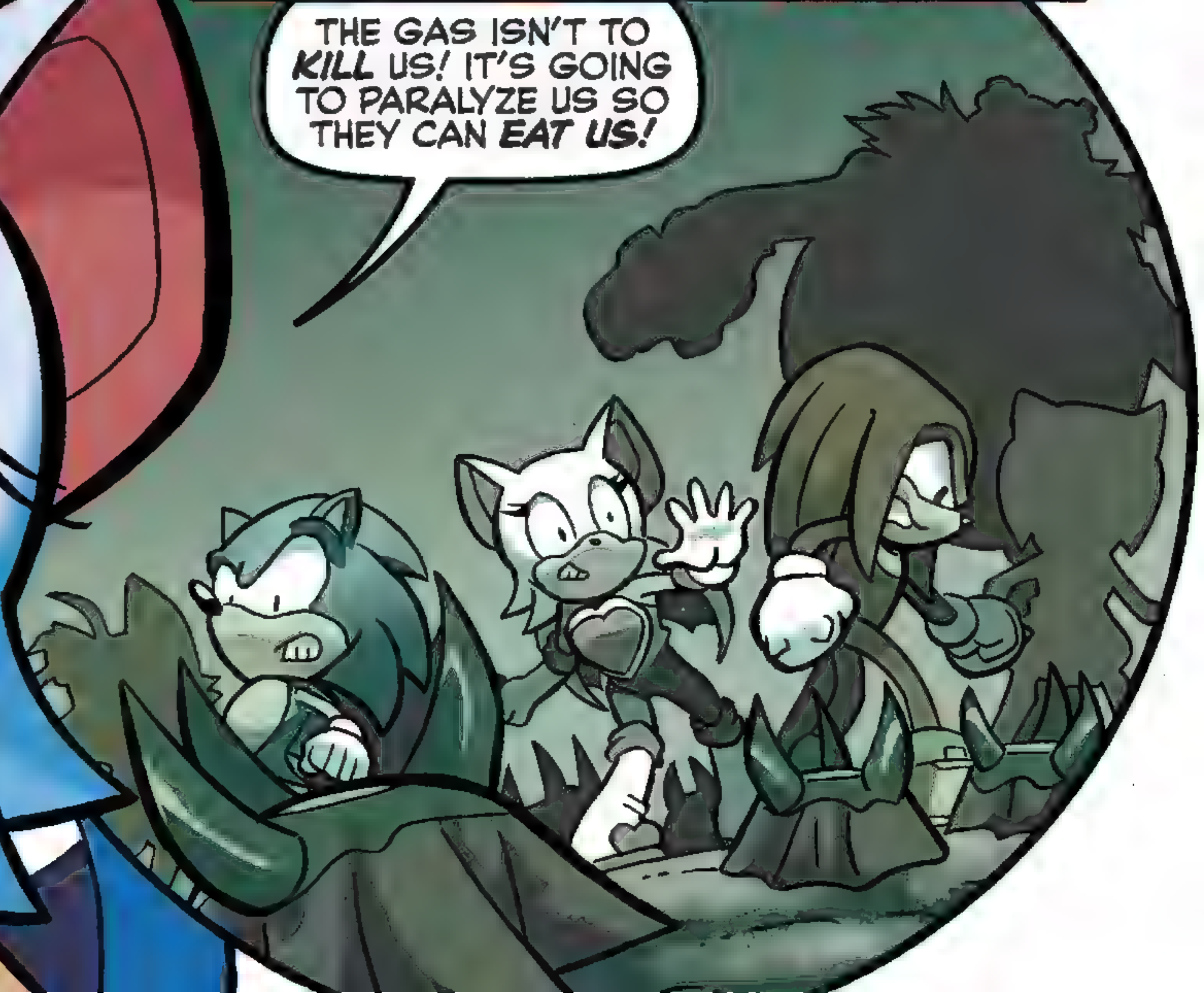
THEY'RE GOING TO GAS US!

WORSE! THEY DID THIS TO US ON THE FIRST BLACK COMET!

WHAT'S WORSE THAN BEING GASSED?!

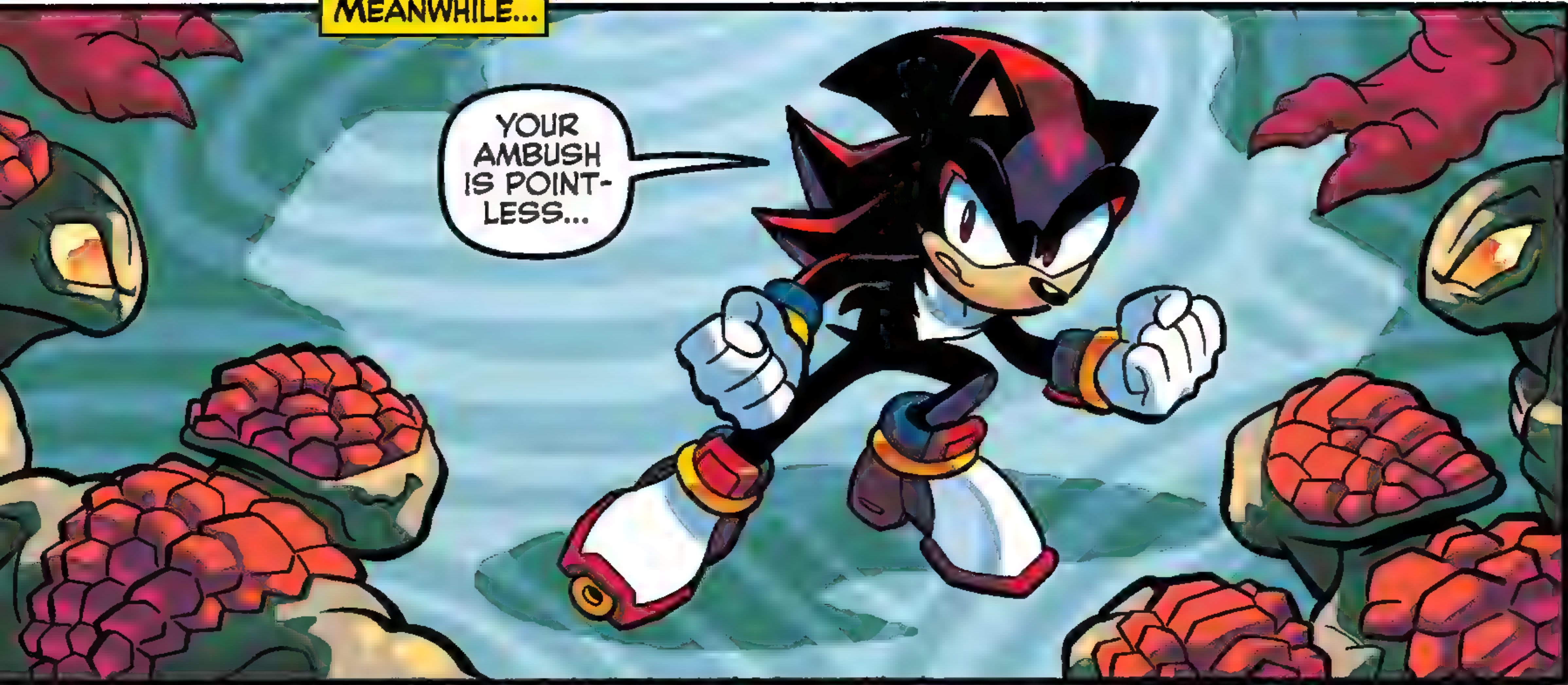


THE GAS ISN'T TO KILL US! IT'S GOING TO PARALYZE US SO THEY CAN EAT US!

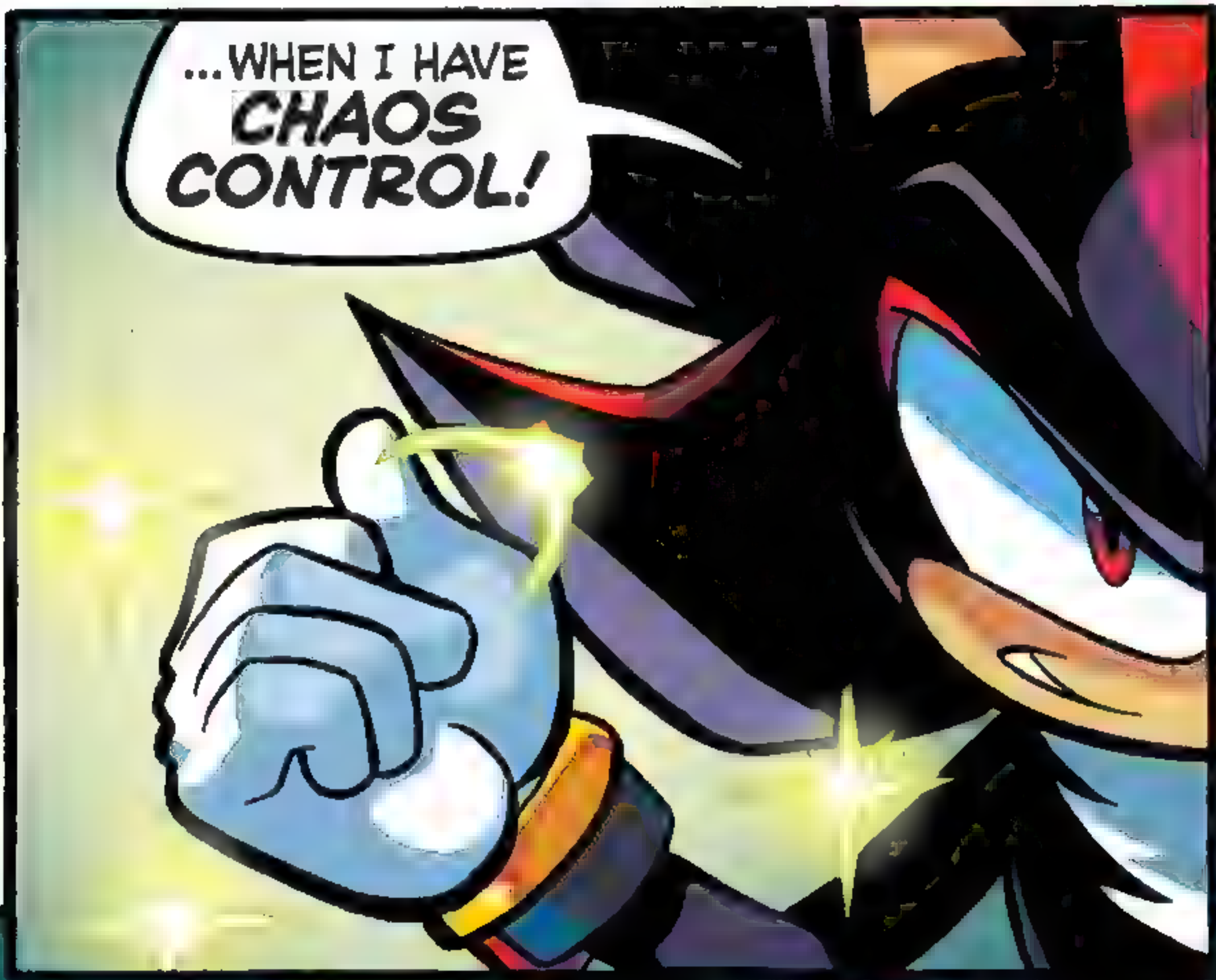


MEANWHILE...

YOUR
AMBUSH
IS POINT-
LESS...

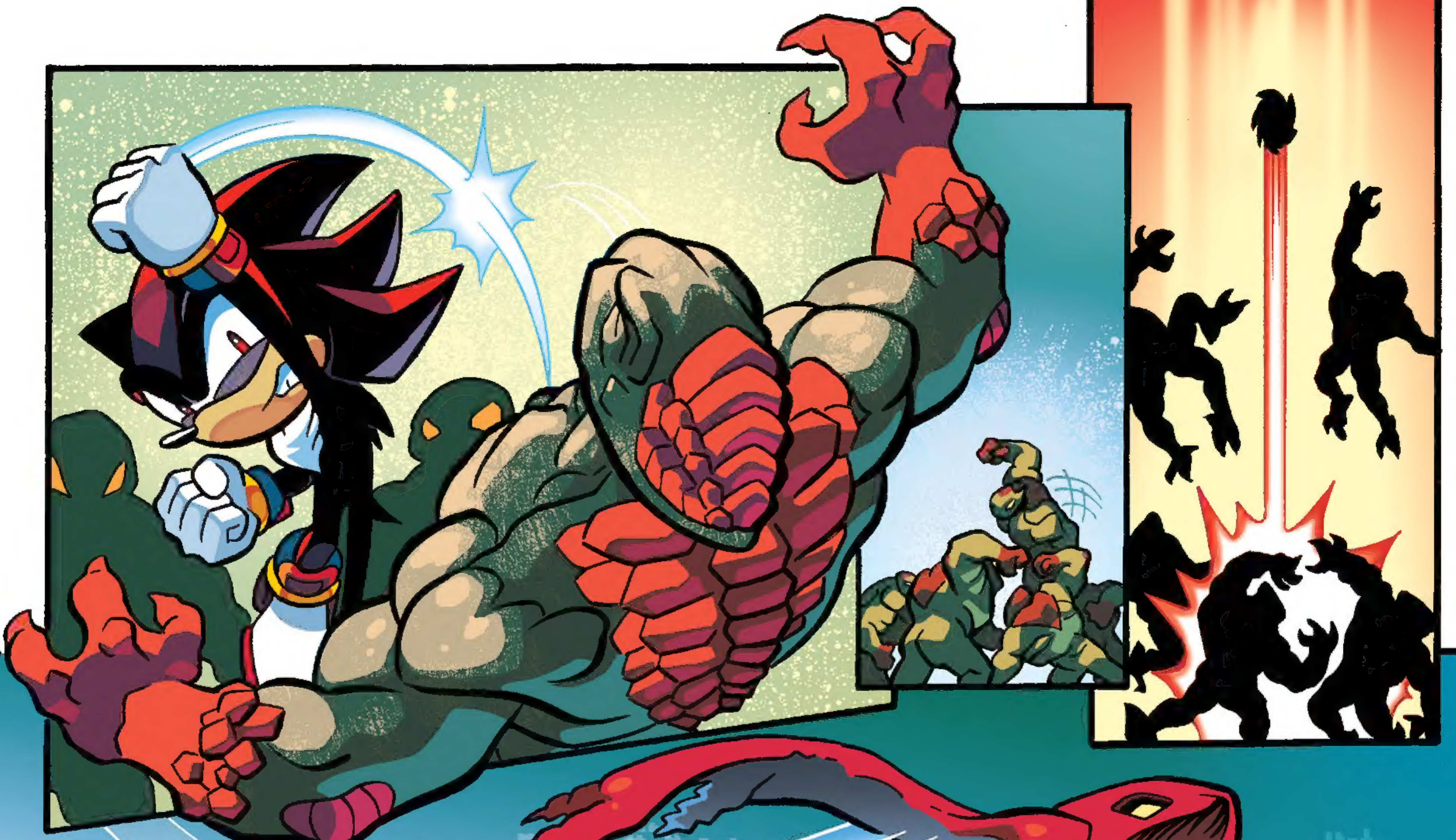


...WHEN I HAVE
**CHAOS
CONTROL!**



...WHAT?





HOLD ON!
HOLD ON! WE
DON'T WANT
TO KILL HIM IF
WE DON'T
HAVE TO!



WHO...
WHO ARE
YOU?



ME?
I AM YOU,
IN A WAY.

A LIVING WEAPON,
BUILT FOR A SINGULAR
PURPOSE. THE BLACK ARM
BIOLOGY--PERFECTED.
I AM THE SHADOW THAT
BLOCKS OUT THE LAST
LIGHT OF HOPE.

I AM
ECLIPSE
THE DARKLING.



WHO IS ECLIPSE? WHAT IS HIS TIE TO SHADOW? HOW WILL ROUGE, OMEGA AND G.U.N. ESCAPE THEIR TRAP? IS THE WORLD DOOMED TO ALIEN INVASION?

DON'T MISS ALL THE ANSWERS AND THE ACTION NEXT TIME!

UNTIL THEN, CHECK OUT SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, THE SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST and THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

MY SONIC UNIVERSE™ FAN ART

Liz H.
from Texas



Shakira B.
from Tennessee



Tristan D.
from New York



Beth L. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

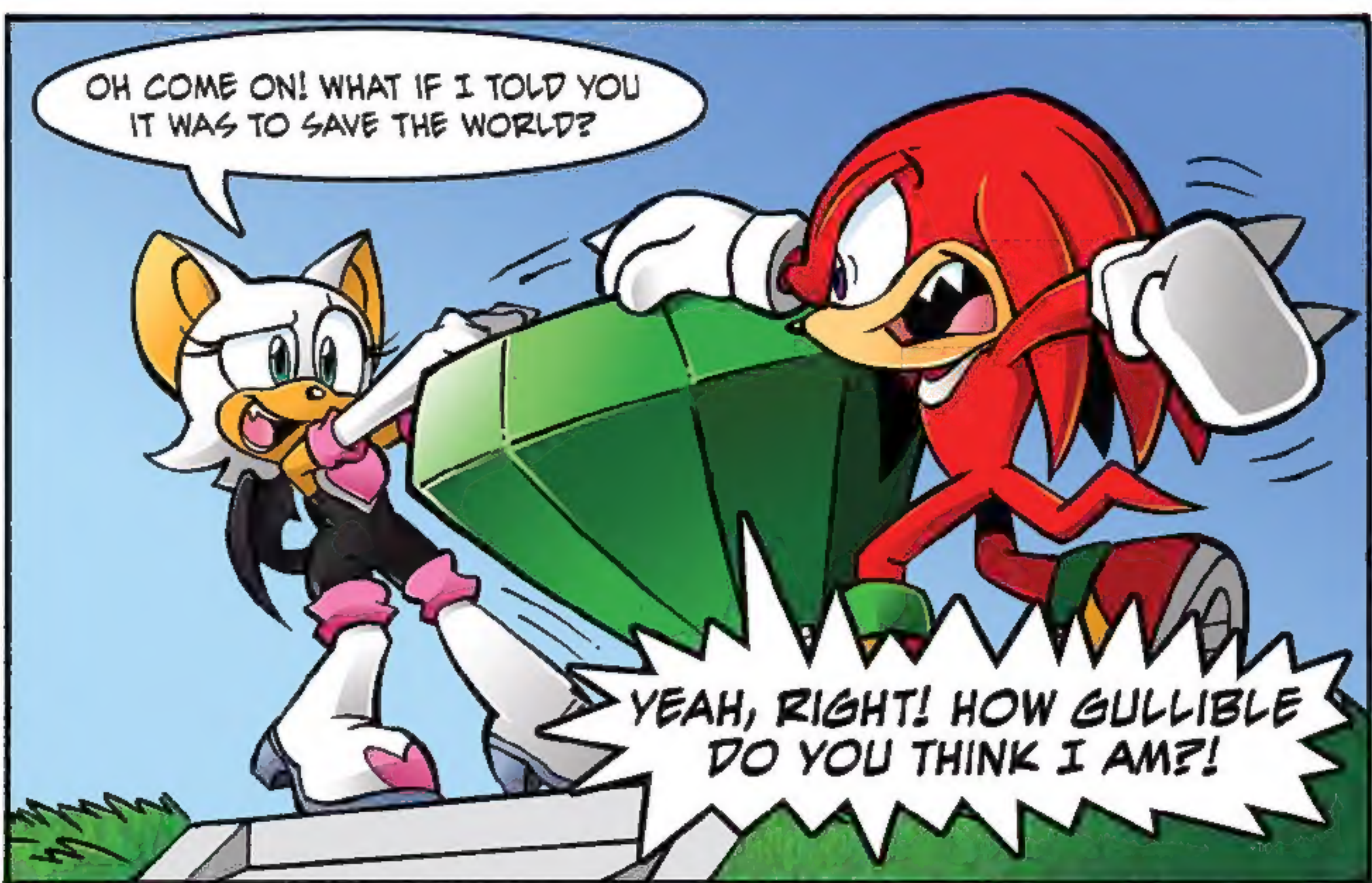
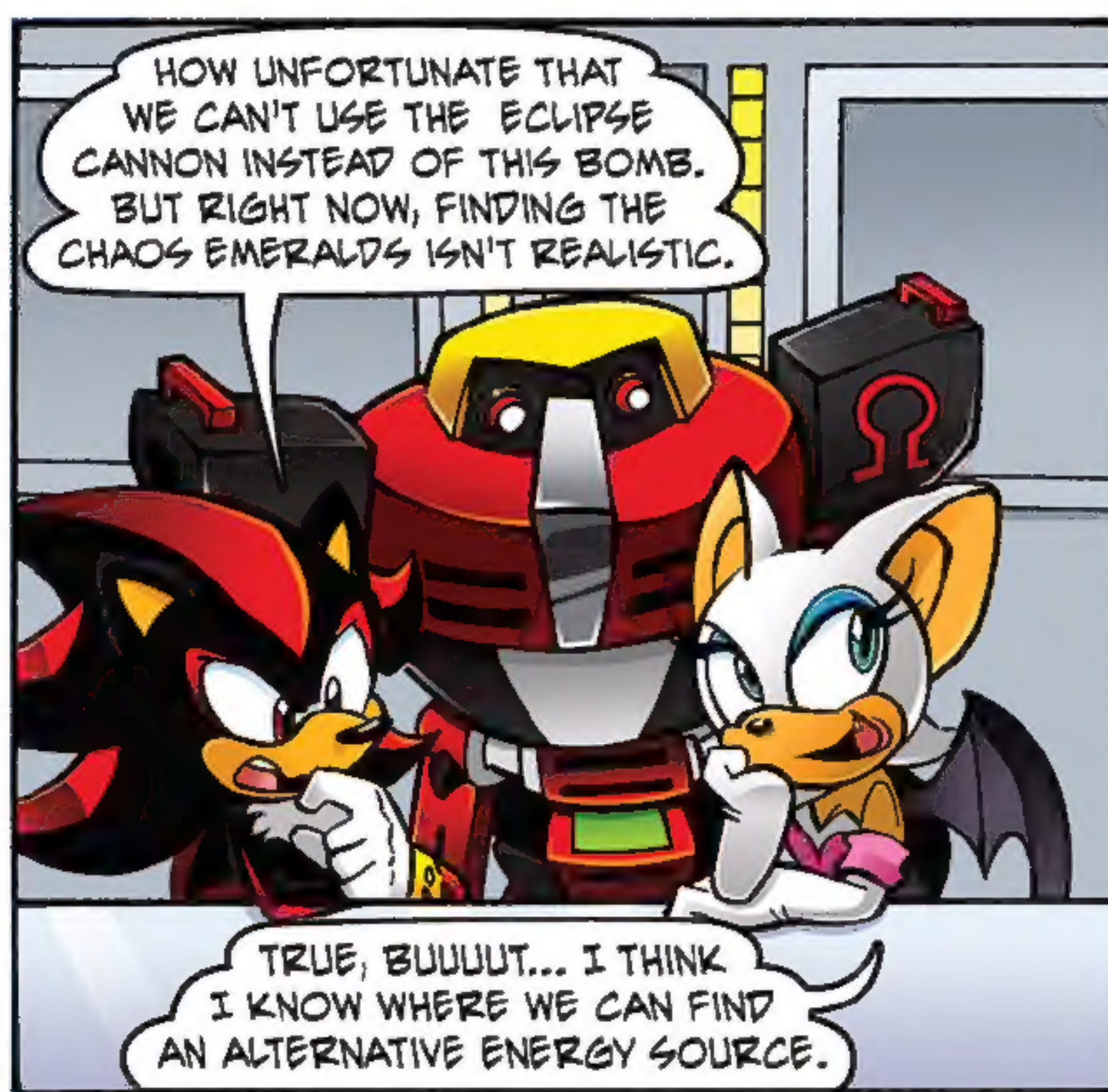
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OFF PANEL

SHADOW FALL



SCRIPT/COLORS: ALEAH BAKER PENCILS: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ INKS: RICK BRYANT

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Dear 'My Sonic Universe,'

Hey there sonic team it is Austin again! Remember Shadow's #1.1 fan?

I know you!

Well being a Shadow fan, I've recently heard of there being a new arc about Shadow and the Black Arms! Even though the comet passes every 50 years I'm glad that we don't have to wait that long hehe.

I hope this issue cleared up any confusion you might have had! This is an all-new comet with all-new threats!

Is it possible that Shadow could be convinced by these aliens and turn into a villain? That would be so awesome because I would love to see Shadow as a major threat against the Freedom Fighters!

Get a load of the preview page at the end of this comic and speculate for yourself! I think you'll be pleasantly surprised!

I am looking forward to 'Shadow Fall' and I can't wait to see how awesome it will be! Thank you

for your time and please keep up the good work!

Austin. J sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks, Austin! I don't have a SHADOW of a doubt that you'll enjoy this issue!

Dear 'My Sonic Universe,'

I just love the Chaotix and my favorite member is Vector. Can you tell Vector that he is the coolest?

Of course! I'm sure the coolest croc around would love to hear you're kind words as much as he loves good pay!

Is there a book with the Modern Chaotix?

Sonic Universe Vol. 3 has plenty of Chaotix action for ya! Check out the Sonic Universe coupon in this book and order your copy today! Plugplugplugplug!

I am planning to get all of the Chaotix Quest and since I am a fan of Vector I love to draw him. I even sent you guys some of my artwork of him!

Thanks!

Elijah sent to

Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the letter, Elijah! We love to hear that you enjoy the Chaotix so much because they're coming back really soon! Keep the fan art coming, we can't get enough!

Dear 'My Sonic Universe,'
Hi there!

Hello!

I just wanted to say what a great job you guys have been doing, Sonic Universe has become my all-time favorite comic ever!

Many thanks to you, that's way past awesome to know!

That's all I wanted to say! Also, could I be Rouge's # 1 fan?!

Billy C.
from Illinois

Thanks, Bill! You can be Rouge's #1 fan, sure! Unless of course any other Rouge fans out there would beg to differ?

See ya'll next month for part two of SHADOW FALL!

COLLECTOR COVER
SPOTLIGHT

SONIC UNIVERSE #59



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